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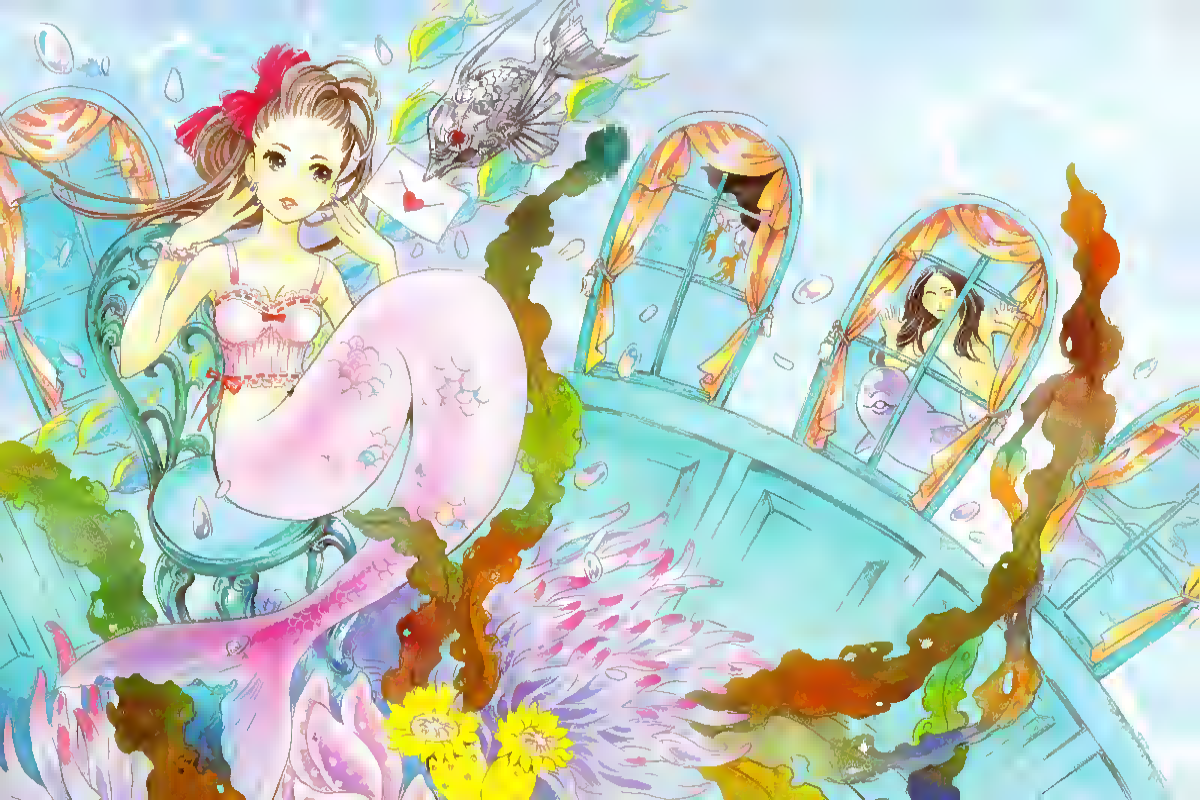
A mermaid and the illness called "glove," an easy-going young company owner and the "forest spirit" he encounters, and more...? Four entwining fantasy stories in Kamata Kimiko's magnificent and yet delicate style.



AERANDRIA
THE RAPID TOOLS BEHIND YOUR FAVORITE RELEASES!

Mermaid Syndrome
Chapter 01

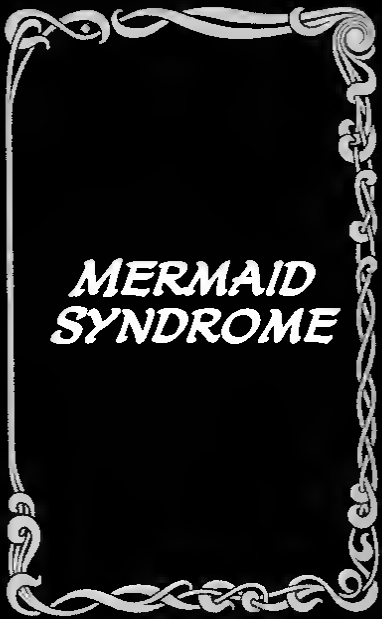
Lacaille :SCANNER
Mari :TRANSLATOR
Lacaille :PROOFREADER
Macbeth :EDITORS
Lacaille :QUALITY CHECK

Hurry up [illegible] him!

– Lacaille

http://[illegible]rc // irchighway net/#aerandria

マイメイド・シンドローム
かまたきみこ
Kimiko Kamata



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Mermaid
Syndrome

NEXT PATIENT PLEASE
WELCOME TO THE ASHLEY MEDICAL CLINIC
THIS IS MY ASSISTANT MIITAN.
MISS FLANAGAN, MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
PLEASE, TAKE THAT CHAIR AND RELAX.
Gtak...
YOU CAN TRUST HIM AS YOU TRUST ME. NOW PLEASE SPEAK FREELY...

DOCTOR I'VE BEEN TO MANY HOSPITALS, BUT...
THEY HAVE ALL TURNED ME AWAY AT THE DOOR, SAYING MODERN MEDICINE HAS NO CURE FOR ME
SO HEAR I AM...
THEN I HEARD THERE IS ONLY ONE DOCTOR WHO LOOKS INTO THIS KIND OF ILLNESS,
SO I TAKE IT..
YOU HAVE THE SYN-DROME?
PLEASE, TAKE A LOOK
YES
LOOK HOW MUCH I'VE CHANGED

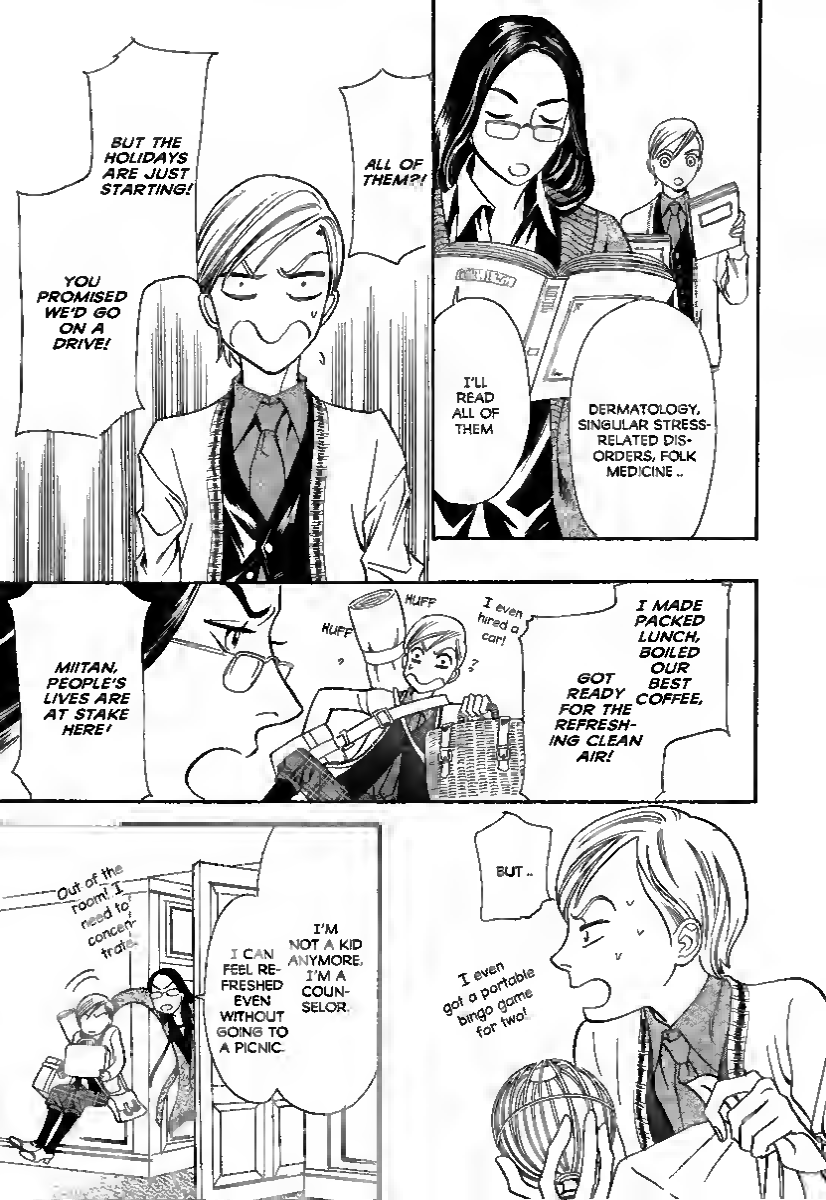
MERMAID SYNDROME
A SYNDROME OF UNKNOWN CAUSE WHICH HARDENS THE SKIN TO THE SHAPE AND CONSISTENCY OF FISH SCALES...
..THE WHOLE BODY
ONE DAY, REAL SCALES JUST START APPEARING AND GRADUALLY COVER.
IT'S DIFFERENT FROM THE GENETIC SKIN DISORDER ICHTHYOSIS AS THERE IS NO PAIN AND NUMBNESS.
I WAS SURE YOU COULD HELP ME...
BUT I HEARD THAT YOU'VE BEEN SUCCESSFUL, DOCTOR!
MEDICATIONS AND SURGICAL TREATMENT CANNOT HEAL THIS

ALL I DO IS OFFER A SYMPATHETIC EAR TO YOUR TROUBLES
BUT MAYBE THAT S THE KEY TO YOUR RECOVERY
SO PLEASE... TELL ME WHAT TROUBLES YOUR HEART
THANK YOU!
Splash
leap
RUN
RUN

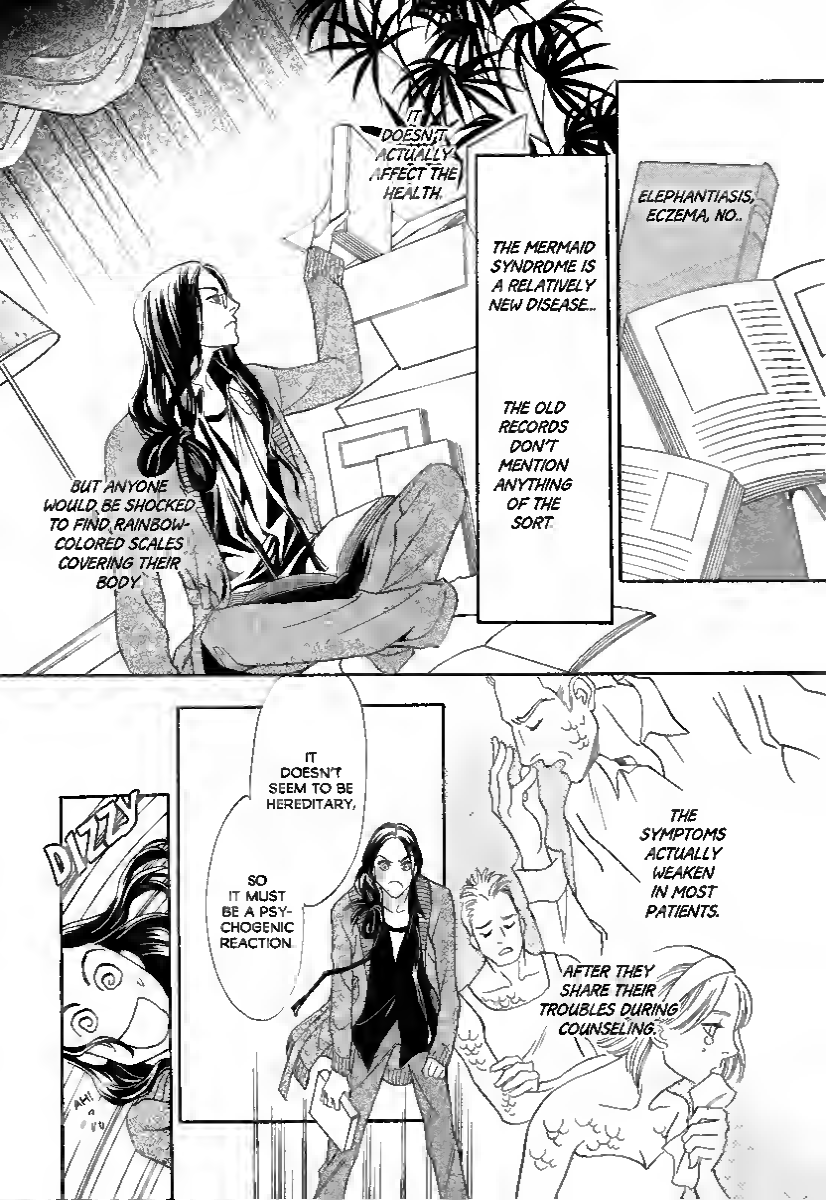
THE PAPER SAYS THAT A MAN WITH MERMAID SYNDROME COMMITTED SUICIDE ..
...BY JUMPING IN THE SEA YESTER-DAY!
WHAT IS IT, MII-TAN?
DOCTOR, TERRIBLE NEWS!
splash
WHAT?
DOES THAT MEAN
...THAT WHEN THE SYMPTOMS BECOME TOO HEAVY THE PATIENT MIGHT CHOOSE DEATH?
HE WASN'T ONE OF YOUR PATIENTS.
BUT IT SAYS HERE HIS WHOLE BODY WAS COVERED WITH SCALES.

THEY HAVEN'T FOUND THE BODY OR A WILL
crumple
SO THEY CAN'T EVEN BE SURE IT'S A SUICIDE
I HAVE TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED IMMEDIATELY
MAYBE I SHOULD CALL FOR GROUP THERAPY TOMORROW?
NO, I DON'T HAVE ANY PARTICULAR EVERYDAY WORRIES...
ME, NEITHER.. I GET ALONG WITH MY PARENTS, TOO
TRAUMA...? NO..
NO WORK-RELATED TROUBLE, TOO..
HMM...
THEY ARE ALL IN DIFFERENT SOCIAL POSITIONS, BUT THEIR BASIC ENVIRONMENT IS THE SAME. THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY PROBLEMS HERE.
SO,
THE ONLY WORRY IS THE DESIRE TO BE RID OF THE SCALES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...

MERMAID JAMP TO
THERE AREN T ANY PROB-LEMS AND..
THEY ARE ALL IN GOOD HEALTH
SO WHY ARE THEY INFECTED WITH MER-MAID SYN-DROME?
"SECOND PATIENT WITH HEAVY SYMP-TOMS JUMPS TO SEA."
"WHERE ARE THE CORPSES?"
DOC-TOR,
DELIVERY FOR YOU.
thud thud
IF ONLY THEY HAD COME TO ME...
...BEFORE CHOOSING DEATH
SO MANY BOOKS.

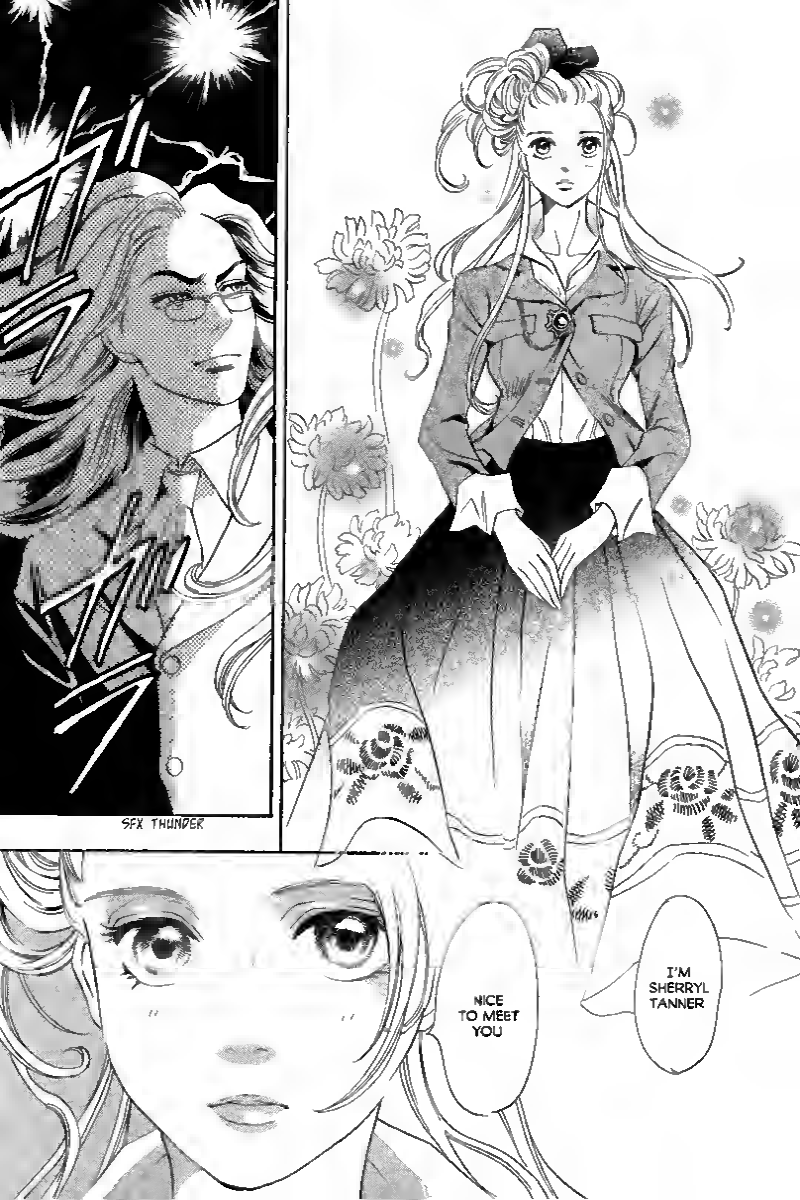

BUT THE HOLIDAYS ARE JUST STARTING!
ALL OF THEM?!
YOU PROMISED WE'D GO ON A DRIVE!
I'LL READ ALL OF THEM
DERMATOLOGY, SINGULAR STRESS-RELATED DISORDERS, FOLK MEDICINE ..
MIITAN, PEOPLE'S LIVES ARE AT STAKE HERE!
HUFF
HUFF
I even hired a car!
I MADE PACKED LUNCH, BOILED OUR BEST COFFEE, GOT READY FOR THE REFRESHING CLEAN AIR!
Out of the room! I need to concentrate.
I CAN FEEL REFRESHED EVEN WITHOUT GOING TO A PICNIC.
I'M NOT A KID ANYMORE. I'M A COUNSELOR.
BUT ..
I even got a portable bingo game for two!

rustl..
rustle
spread
THE WEATHER IS GREAT.
THE LUNCH IS TASTY
A LITTLE LAUGHING WOULD HAVE DONE HIM A WORLD OF GOOD
I EVEN WRAPPED THE SAND-WICHES FOR HIM...
HE HAS SUCH A GREAT VIEW OF THE SEA FROM HIS WINDOW.
BUT I BET HE'S DRAWN THE CURTAINS AND IS DEEP AT WORK
DOCTOR YOU'RE TOO DILIGENT FOR YOUR OWN GOOD


IT DOESN'T ACTUALLY AFFECT THE HEALTH.
ELEPHANTIASIS, ECZEMA, NO..
THE MERMAID SYNDROME IS A RELATIVELY NEW DISEASE..
THE OLD RECORDS DON'T MENTION ANYTHING OF THE SORT.
BUT ANYONE WOULD BE SHOCKED TO FIND RAINBOW-COLORED SCALES COVERING THEIR BODY.
IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE HEREDITARY,
SO IT MUST BE A PSY-CHOGENIC REACTION
DIZZY
Ahh
THE SYMPTOMS ACTUALLY WEAKEN IN MOST PATIENTS.
AFTER THEY SHARE THEIR TROUBLES DURING COUNSELING.

DARN.. I HAVEN'T EATEN A BIT IN OVER A DAY..
I.. I HAVE TO EAT SOMETHING NOW...
AH!
"Doctor, you need to feed yourself properly if you want to do your job properly Mitan"
MUNCH MUNCH
"SORRY, MITAN..
IT'S JUST MY BAD HABIT..
I ALWAYS TELL MY PATIENTS TO TAKE VERY GOOD CARE OF THEMSELVES.
AND YET, JUST LOOK AT HOW I RUN MYSELF RAGGED..
BUT I MUST CONTINUE WITH MY RESEARCH

THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS LEAPED UP...
RIGHT AFTER THAT MAGAZINE PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE ABOUT YOU,
I LEARNED ABOUT DR ASHLEY FROM A BOOK
I COULD NOT TELL ANYONE ABOUT IT
DO ALL OF YOU HAVE MERMAID SYNDROME?
SO I WASN'T THE ONLY ONE!
LET'S START TODAY'S EXAMINATIONS
DOCTOR, YOU LOOK VERY TIRED?
EVERY PATIENT COUNTS..
I CAME ALL THE WAY FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COUNTRY!
Creak
PLEASE, COME IN NOW
MISS TANNER!


SFX THUNDER
I'M SHERRYL TANNER
NICE TO MEET YOU

DOC-TOR ...?
AH, EXCUSE ME PLEASE...
TAKE THIS CHAIR AND RELAX.
Crackle
Crackle
THUNDER
SHE'S CUTE
Hmm?
I READ ABOUT YOU IN A BOOK,
AND I CAME WITHOUT ANY DELAY, DOCTOR
IN THAT CASE...
SHOW ME THE AF-FECTED PARTS
Crackle
Crackle
lift

IT'S EMBARRASSING BUT...
I KNEW YOU'D HAVE TO SEE ME
SWISH
MY LEGS LOOK LIKE THAT OF A FISH'S.
DOCTOR, I...
WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME?

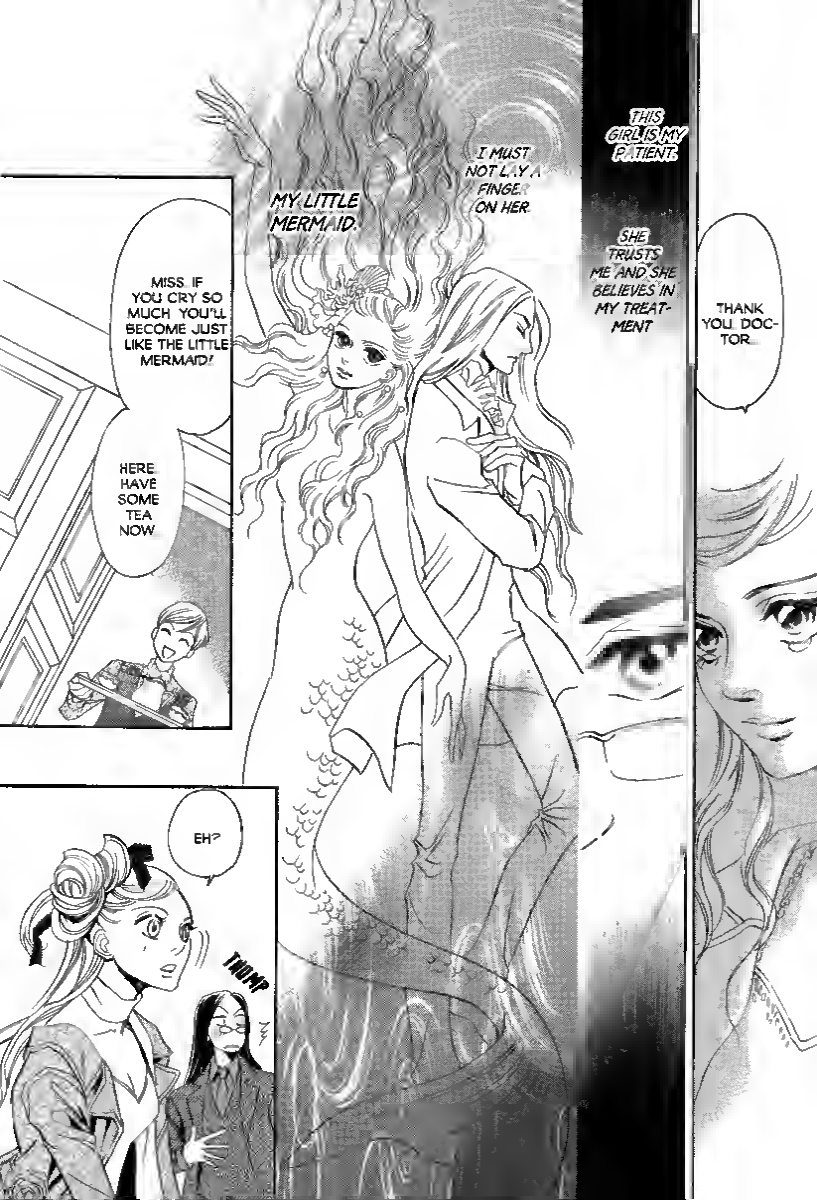
THANKS LEAVE IT OVER HERE.
DOCTOR, I MADE YOU TEA!
Strong black Talbott tea.
Scribble
HEH!
THE GIRL TODAY WAS SO CUTE, EH, DOCTOR?
GIRL...?

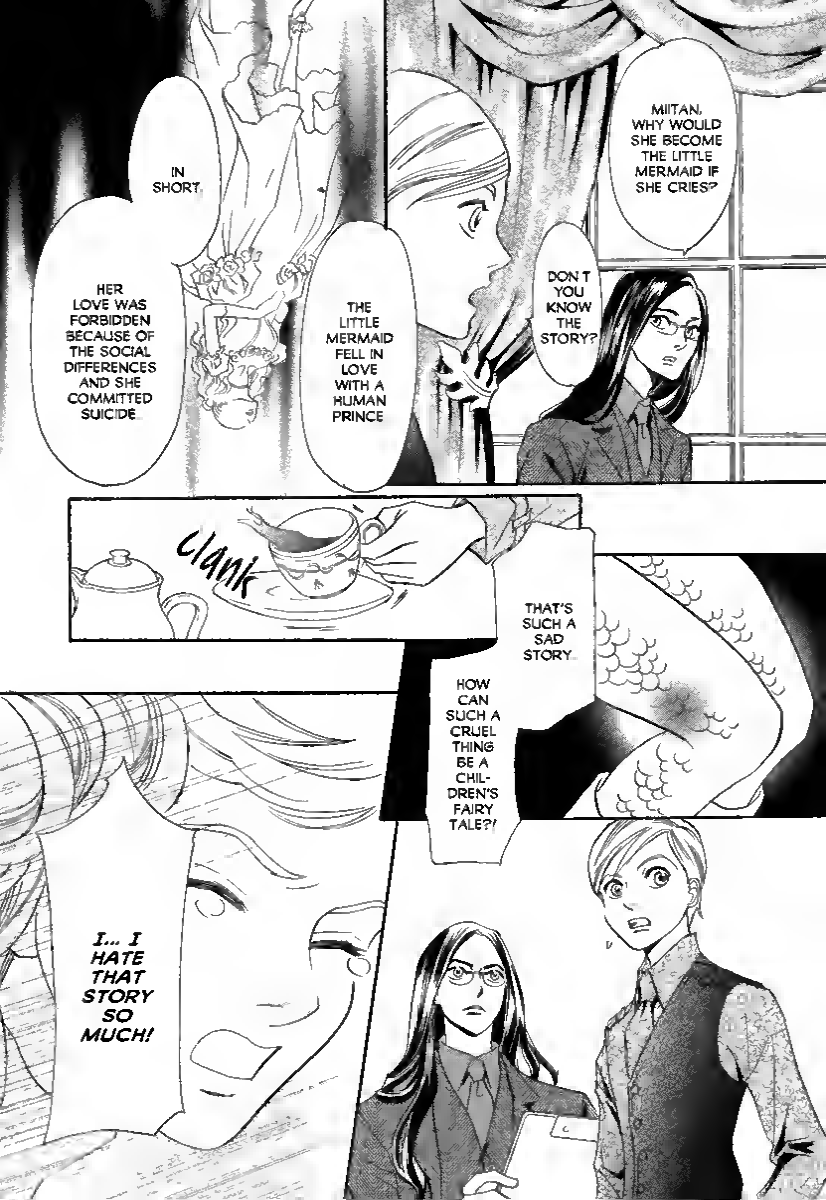
SHERRYL!
I'M TALKING ABOUT MS SHERRYL TANNER OF COURSE!
THE ONE WITH THE FRILLY EDGES
THUNDER
THUNDER
AH, THAT ONE
Chocolate Chip scones!
munch munch
YOU WERE STARING BUG-EYED, TOO, DOCTOR.
SHOULD I ASK HER IF SHE HAS A BOYFRIEND THE NEXT TIME SHE COMES?
MIITAN!
SUCH IMPUDENCE HAS ITS LIMITS!
I'M A DOCTOR AND SHE IS MY PATIENT!

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
YOU'RE A BACHELOR,
AND SHE IS YOUNG AND IN GREAT SHAPE
YOU SAW THOSE LEGS TOO, DIDN'T YOU?
THUNDER
THUNDER
MIITAN!
SHOVE
eeek!
crash

I WON'T LET YOU MAKE SUCH JOKES ABOUT ABOUT MY PATIENTS
UNDER-STOOD?
IF I EVER HEAR YOU SPEAK LIKE THAT AGAIN,
I'LL KICK YOU OUT OF HERE.
YES...
YES, DOCTOR.
SO YOU TOO CONFIRM THAT..
...YOU DON'T HAVE ANY PARTICU-LAR TROU-BLES...?
NO-THING, DOC-TOR...
NOTHING TO CAUSE YOU EMO-TIONAL PAIN?
I'M JUST SCARED TO SEE THOSE SCALES SPREAD FURTHER EVERY DAY.

I FEEL AS IF I'LL STOP BEING HUMAN...
IT MAKES ME SO SAD THAT I CRY ALL THE TIME BUT...
BUT...?
AFTER I CAME TO THIS CLINIC
AND SPOKE TO YOU...I FEEL A LITTLE BETTER
splash
I FEEL A FRESH DESIRE TO LIVE SPRINGING INSIDE ME


THANK YOU, DOCTOR.
THIS GIRL IS MY PATIENT.
SHE TRUSTS ME AND SHE BELIEVES IN MY TREATMENT
I MUST NOT LAY A FINGER ON HER.
MY LITTLE MERMAID.
MISS, IF YOU CRY SO MUCH YOU'LL BECOME JUST LIKE THE LITTLE MERMAID!
HERE, HAVE SOME TEA NOW.
EH?
THUMP

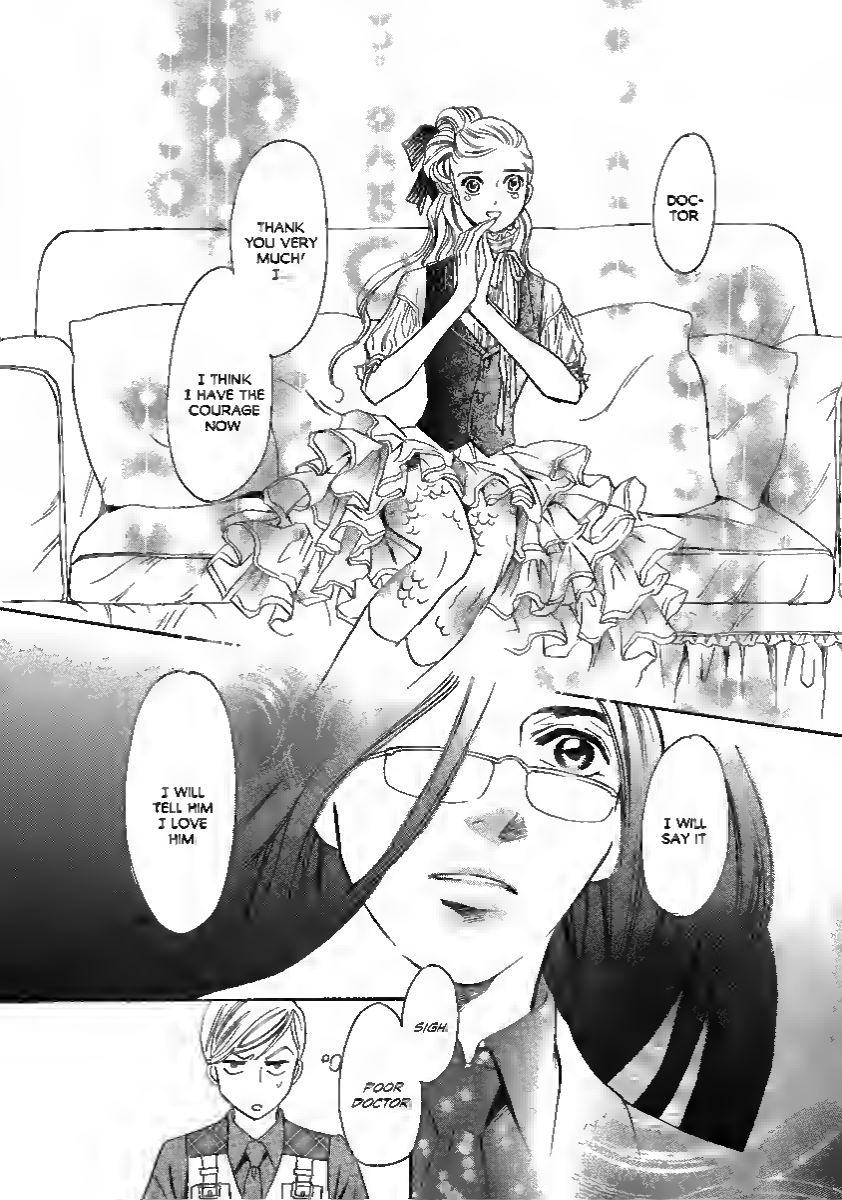

MIITAN, WHY WOULD SHE BECOME THE LITTLE MERMAID IF SHE CRIES?
DON'T YOU KNOW THE STORY?
THE LITTLE MERMAID FELL IN LOVE WITH A HUMAN PRINCE
IN SHORT...
HER LOVE WAS FORBIDDEN BECAUSE OF THE SOCIAL DIFFERENCES AND SHE COMMITTED SUICIDE...
clank
THAT'S SUCH A SAD STORY...
HOW CAN SUCH A CRUEL THING BE A CHILDREN'S FAIRY TALE?!
I... I HATE THAT STORY SO MUCH!

...WAS THE YOUNGEST DAUGHTER OF THE SEA KING. WHEN SHE TURNED EIGHTEEN,
IN ANDERSON'S TALE, "THE LITTLE MERMAID"
SHE SWAM TO THE SEA SURFACE AS WAS HER HABIT,
AND SHE SAW THE REMAINS OF A SHIP, SUNK BY A TERRIBLE STORM.
THE FEELINGS WHICH CAUSED HER OUTBURST...
SHE FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT AND SAVED HIM.
SHE FOUND DRIFTING A YOUNG, HANDSOME PRINCE.
...ARE, IN A CERTAIN SENSE, A VALUABLE LEAD
DRIVEN BY HER LOVE FOR A HUMAN, SHE DRANK THE POTION THE SEA WITCH GAVE HER, AND THUS OBTAINED LEGS.
SHE WENT TO THE CASTLE AND WAS HAPPILY REUNITED WITH THE PRINCE; HOWEVER...
I'M SO HAPPY I FOUND SUCH A CUTE LITTLE SISTER.
BUT I HAVE TO START LOOKING FOR A WIFE NOW.

WHEN THE LITTLE MERMAID FOUND OUT THAT THE PRINCE WASN'T IN LOVE WITH HER, SHE WAILED AND CRIED
"SISTER.. TAKE THIS DAGGER AND KILL THE PRINCE."
AHH.. BUT...
"THEN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THE SEA."
I CAN'T KILL THE MAIN I LOVE."
DOC-TOR
"SHE WAS REBORN IN THE GENTLE BREEZE AND FOAM.."
WHAT A SARCASTIC ENDING!
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT TREATING HER?
I'M SURE THAT SHE WAS..
YES... I HAVE SOMEONE I LOVE
BUT! HE'S SOMEONE I SHOULD'VE NEVER FALLEN IN LOVE WITH
THE LITTLE MERMAID THREW HERSELF INTO THE SEA AND ENDED HER LIFE IN ITS DARK ABYSS

NO... NO! HE'S VERY POPULAR WITH EVERYONE, EVEN MY FRIENDS
WHY IS THAT, SHERRYL?
AND... AND I'M SO... GLOOMY... AND SO... BORING!
WE'RE FREE TO LOVE WHO-EVER WE WANT..
I knew it..
IT'S A STRANGE THING THE AGE WE LIVE IN IS SO RICH IN MATERIAL POSSESSIONS, MONEY AND YET..
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!
WE FIND OURSELVES UNABLE TO LOVE I WONDER WHY IS THAT?
I WONDER WHY YOU..
..HAVE TO BE ASHAMED OF LOVING SOMEONE?
SFX FAIN

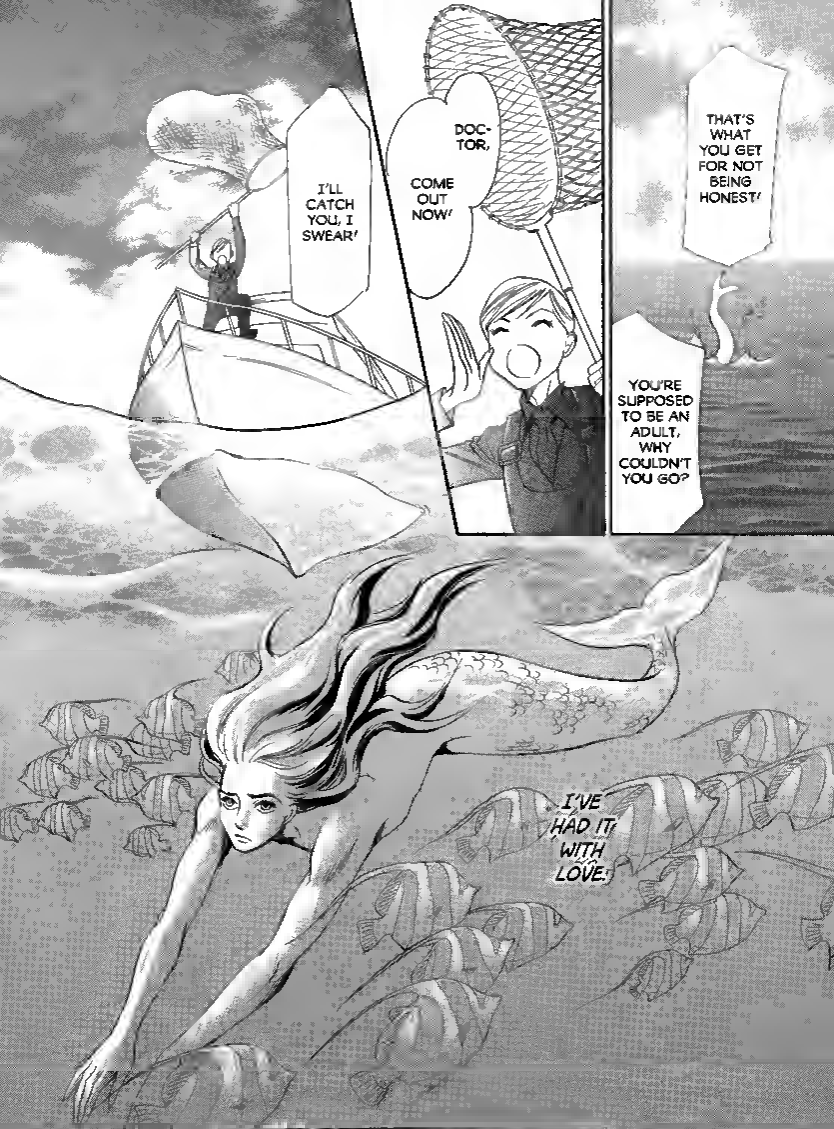
NO!
IS IT AN ILLICIT AND DEPRAVED AFFAIR?
I WOULD NEVER.
IF ALL YOU EVER DO IS SIT, DREAM, AND WAIT
HE WILL NEVER KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.
JUST CONFESS TO HIM. IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE REJECTS YOU
IF HE DOES JUST COME HERE AGAIN
IF YOU DO NOTHING NOW,
HE IS BOUND TO BETRAY YOU ONE DAY... AND YOU'LL NEVER BE FREE...
...OF THIS SADNESS YOU FEEL.


DOC-
TOR
THANK YOU VERY MUCH! I—
I THINK I HAVE THE COURAGE NOW
I WILL SAY IT
I WILL TELL HIM I LOVE HIM
SIGH.
POOR DOCTOR.

THEY USED ANY AVAILABLE EXCUSE TO REJECT THEIR OWN FEELINGS AND ARM THEMSELVES FOR THE MOMENT THEY DISCOVERED THEIR FEELINGS WERE REALLY ONE-SIDED
SOCIAL DIFFERENCES, AGE GAPS, PERSONALITY FLAWS, EVEN THE ABSURD "I HATE COMPUTERS"..
NONE OF THEM TOLD ME A WORD ABOUT THAT
NOW I UNDERSTAND IT WAS ALL BECAUSE THEY ALL OBSTINATELY REJECTED THEIR OWN ONE-SIDED FEELINGS..
"Doctor... thank you very much! Thanks to you, I managed to convey my feelings to him
We decided to go on a date"
rustle
..WAS ENOUGH TO MAKE THE PATIENTS' SCALES DISAPPEAR BEFORE THEM
AFTER THAT DISCOVERY, ONE SIMPLE "YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT"..
CRASH

AH..
IS THIS THE PRICE I HAVE TO PAY..
...FOR SEALING AWAY MY OWN FEELINGS?
Crash

DOCTOR!
DOCTOR ?
splash
MORE TO THE RIGHT!
AH! I SAW A TAIL!
vrooom
Wave


I'LL CATCH YOU, I SWEAR!
DOC-TOR, COME OUT NOW!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE AN ADULT, WHY COULDN'T YOU GO?
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR NOT BEING HONEST!
I'VE HAD IT WITH LOVE.

Mermaid Syndrome/ The End

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AERANDRIA

THE RAPID SOULS BEHIND YOUR FAVORITE RELEASES!

Mermaid Syndrome

Chapter 02

Lacaille :SCANNER
Mari :TRANSLATOR
Lacaille :PROOFREADER
Macbeth :EDITORS
Lacaille :QUALITY CHECK

At least he didn't get ••• ned into a tree.. I was thinking that was a possibility. XD

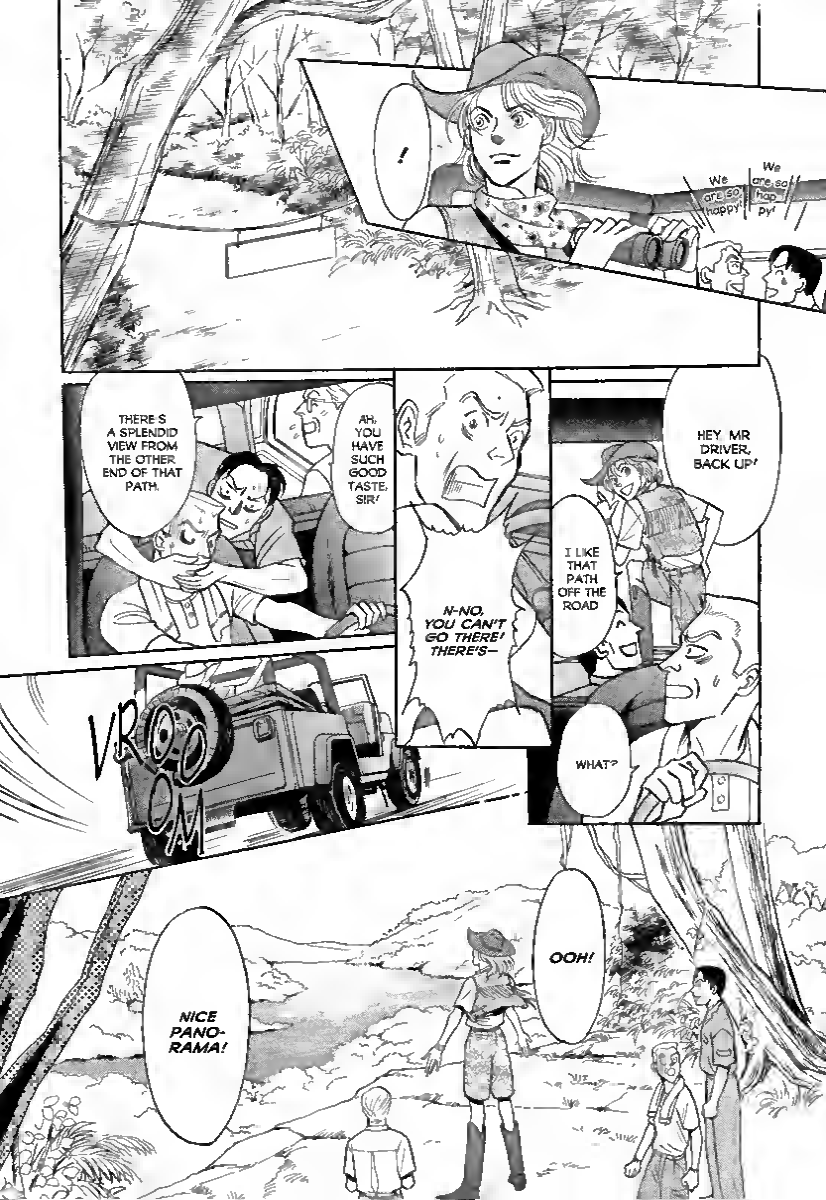
- Lacaille

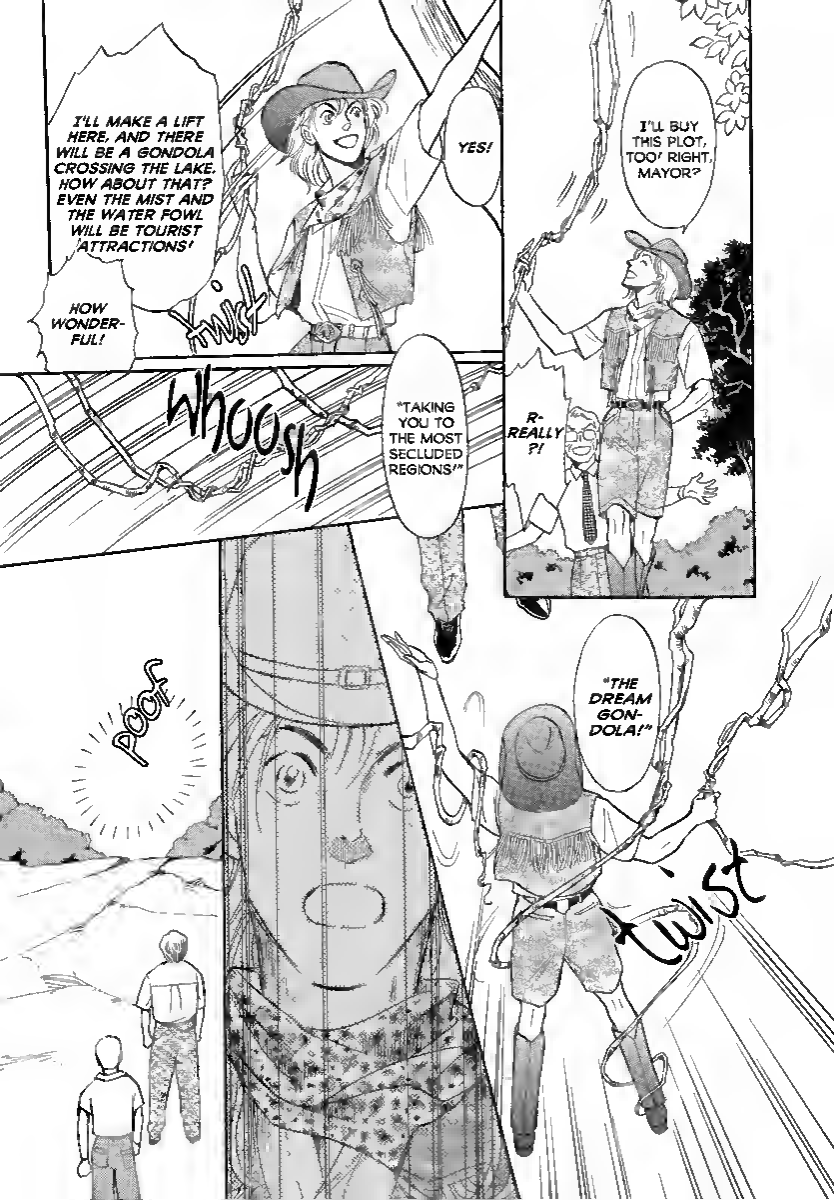
Next Green

THIS FOREST AND THE AREA WAS OFF-LIMITS UNTIL RECENTLY
BUT YOU CAN BUILD A SANATORIUM NEXT TO THE RESORT AND USE IT FOR FOREST BATH COURSES
WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU SEE SUCH SPLENDID GROVES OF BEECH TREES
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
PRESIDENT NEMOTO?
THEY'RE FULL OF "FIT-ON-SIDE" AND ITS OVERFLOWING AROMA JUST BLOWS THE STRESS AWAY OF THE MODERN PEOPLE
HMMM...

*NOTE: HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT "PHYTONCIDE" MEANS AND MISPRONOUNCES IT; PHYTONCIDES ARE ANTIMICROBIAL AND ANTI-ALLERGIC VOLATILE SUBSTANCES DERIVED FROM PLANTS AND WIDELY USED IN FOLK MEDICINE.

SOUNDS LIKE FUN!
IF YOU SAY SO, WHY NOT?
GETTING IN TOUCH WITH NATURE IS FASHIONABLE NOWADAYS AND MY SISTERS WILL DEFINITELY COME BEING THE FOLLOWERS OF EVERY NEW FAD THERE IS
WE CAN MAKE A THEME PARK "FOREST BEAR".. OK! I'LL BUY THIS PLACE!
DID YOU HEAR THAT, MAYOR?!
Public institutions saved from bankruptcy
YES! I'M SO HAPPY!

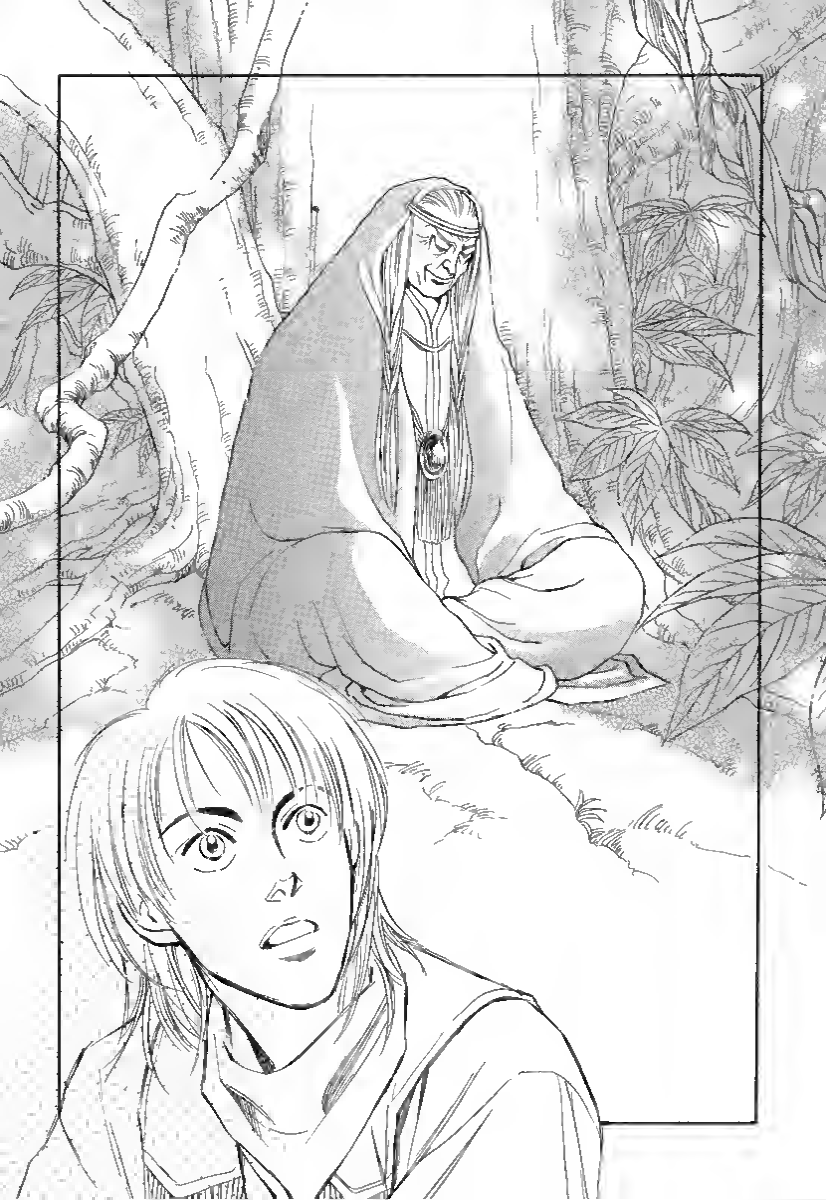

!
We are so happy!
We are so happy!
HEY, MR DRIVER, BACK UP!
I LIKE THAT PATH OFF THE ROAD
WHAT?
N-NO, YOU CAN'T GO THERE! THERE'S—
AH, YOU HAVE SUCH GOOD TASTE, SIR!
THERE'S A SPLENDID VIEW FROM THE OTHER END OF THAT PATH.
VROOOM
OOH!
NICE PANO-RAMA!


I'LL MAKE A LIFT HERE, AND THERE WILL BE A GONDOLA CROSSING THE LAKE. HOW ABOUT THAT? EVEN THE MIST AND THE WATER FOWL WILL BE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS!
YES!
I'LL BUY THIS PLOT, TOO! RIGHT, MAYOR?
HOW WONDER-FUL!
TWIST
WHOOSH
"TAKING YOU TO THE MOST SECLUDED REGIONS!"
R-REALLY?!
"THE DREAM GON-DOLA!"
POOF
TWIST

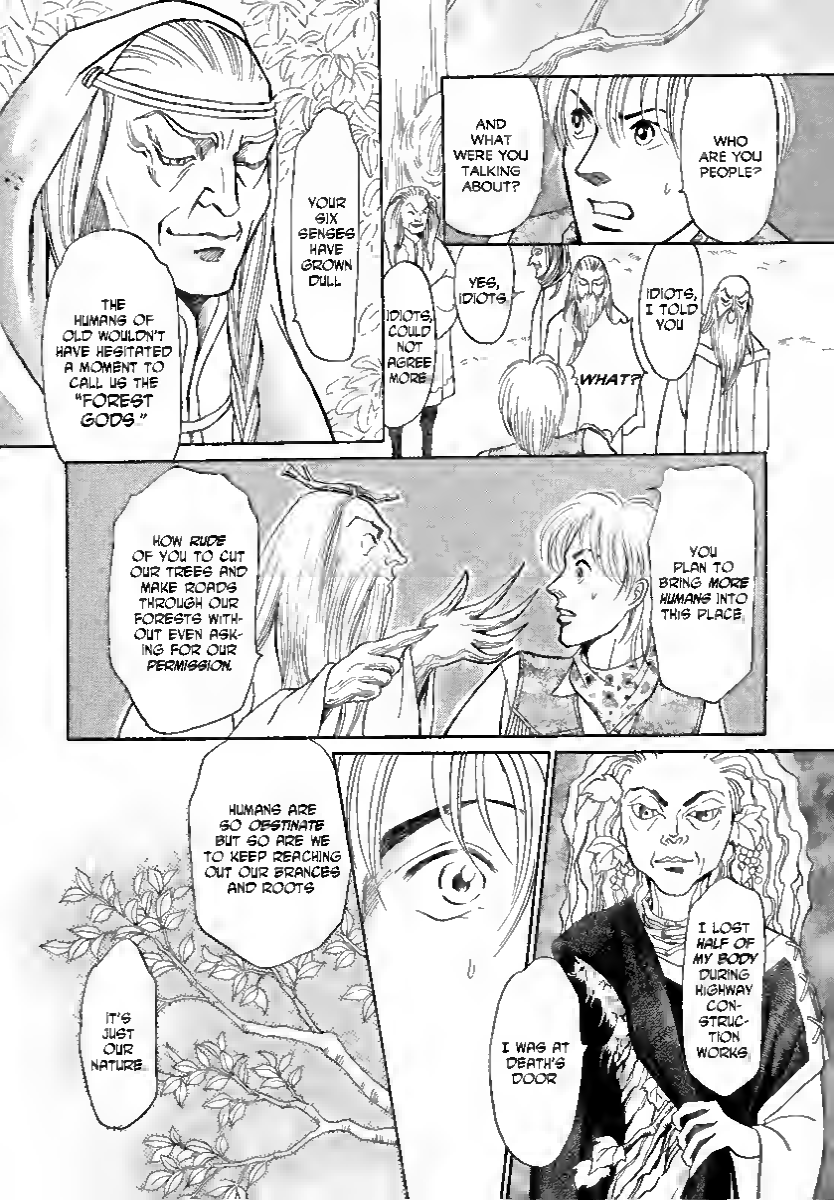
I TOLD YOU...
HE THE SPIRITS KIDNAPPED HIM...
THAT'S WHY THEY CALL IT "THE CURSED FOREST"
HE ENTERED HERE WITHOUT EVEN A PROPER OFFERING. THE MOUNTAIN GOD IS ANGRY WITH HIM...!
NEMOTO-SAN!
IT'S JUST A STUPID OLD WIVES' TALE!
AH!
MAYOR, WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING?!
N-NEMOTO-SAN .?
MY, MY.
ORGANIZE A SEARCH PARTY, NOW!
AND CALL THE FORESTRY UNION!

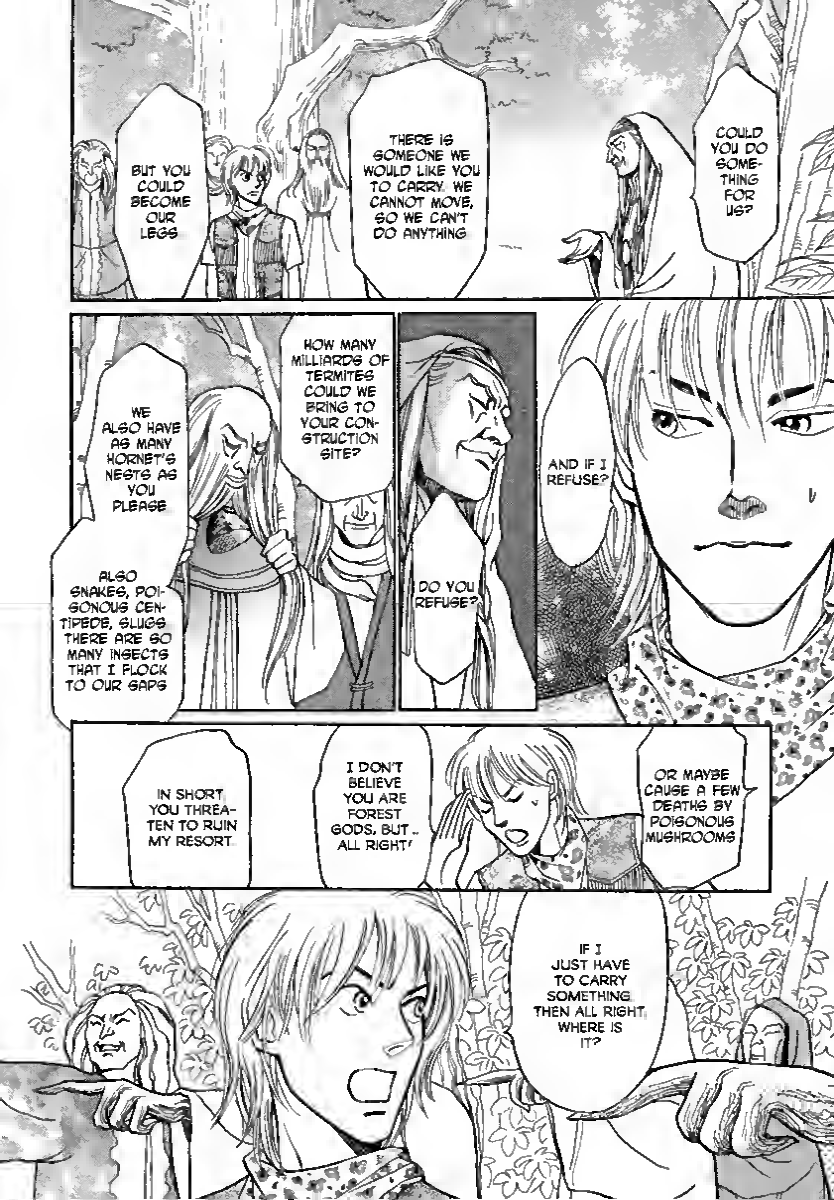
KO KO HO.
AH... JUST LOOK AT THIS...
WHAT A FRUIT DROPPED FROM YOU, SIR BEECH.
IT'S JUST A GREEDY HUMAN WHO DROPPED DOWN, SIR CRAPE MYRTLE.
A HUMAN.
IT'S A HU-MAN!
SIR CORN BARNACLE ALWAYS HITS THE BULL'S EYE, DOESN'T HE?

EVERY-ONE, HOLD YOUR NOSES
EH!
HUH?! WAIT A MINUTE HEY!
AH, THE STENCH IS UN BEAR-ABLE.
ANYWAY, LET US TAKE HIM TO THE ELDER NOW.
sniff
AH, BUT HOW HE SMELLS , IT REEKS OF HU-MAN.
I.. I JUST FELL OFF A CLIFF, AND ..
DID I HIT MY HEAD HARDER THAN I THOUGHT?
THUD
GYAH!
BOW, HUMAN.
THE ELDER WILL SPEAK TO YOU
My poor coccyx
YANK
TURN THIS WAY AND LISTEN!
GYAH!



S-
COUGH!
STOP MAKING SUCH WEIRD NOISES!
BEFORE WE SPEAK, FUMIGATE HIM WITH YOUR PHYTONCIDES.
WHAT STENCH...
puff
puff
puff
YES, SIR...
YOU AREN'T EVEN BOUND TO IT. YOU'RE REALLY A BUNDLE OF NERVES!
CHUCKLE
WHY DON'T YOU REMOVE IT YOURSELF?
HUMANS ARE ALL IDIOTS.
YOU ARE A BUNDLE OF NERVES
WHO WOULDN'T BE, IN A POSITION LIKE THIS?! GET ME OFF THIS LOG!


THE HUMANS OF OLD WOULDN'T HAVE HESITATED A MOMENT TO CALL US THE "FOREST GODS."
YOUR SIX SENSES HAVE GROWN DULL
IDIOTS, COULD NOT AGREE MORE
AND WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE?
YES, IDIOTS
IDIOTS, I TOLD YOU
WHAT?
HOW RUDE OF YOU TO CUT OUR TREES AND MAKE ROADS THROUGH OUR FORESTS WITHOUT EVEN ASKING FOR OUR PERMISSION.
YOU PLAN TO BRING MORE HUMANS INTO THIS PLACE.
IT'S JUST OUR NATURE.
HUMANS ARE SO OBSTINATE BUT SO ARE WE TO KEEP REACHING OUT OUR BRANCES AND ROOTS
I WAS AT DEATH'S DOOR
I LOST HALF OF MY BODY DURING HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION WORKS.


COULD YOU DO SOMETHING FOR US?
THERE IS SOMEONE WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO CARRY. WE CANNOT MOVE, SO WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING
BUT YOU COULD BECOME OUR LEGS
AND IF I REFUSE?
DO YOU REFUSE?
HOW MANY MILLIARDS OF TERMITES COULD WE BRING TO YOUR CONSTRUCTION SITE?
WE ALSO HAVE AS MANY HORNET'S NESTS AS YOU PLEASE
ALSO SNAKES, POISONOUS CENTIPEDE, SLUGS THERE ARE SO MANY INSECTS THAT I FLOCK TO OUR GAPS
OR MAYBE CAUSE A FEW DEATHS BY POISONOUS MUSHROOMS
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU ARE FOREST GODS, BUT... ALL RIGHT!
IN SHORT, YOU THREATEN TO RUIN MY RESORT.
IF I JUST HAVE TO CARRY SOMETHING, THEN ALL RIGHT. WHERE IS IT?

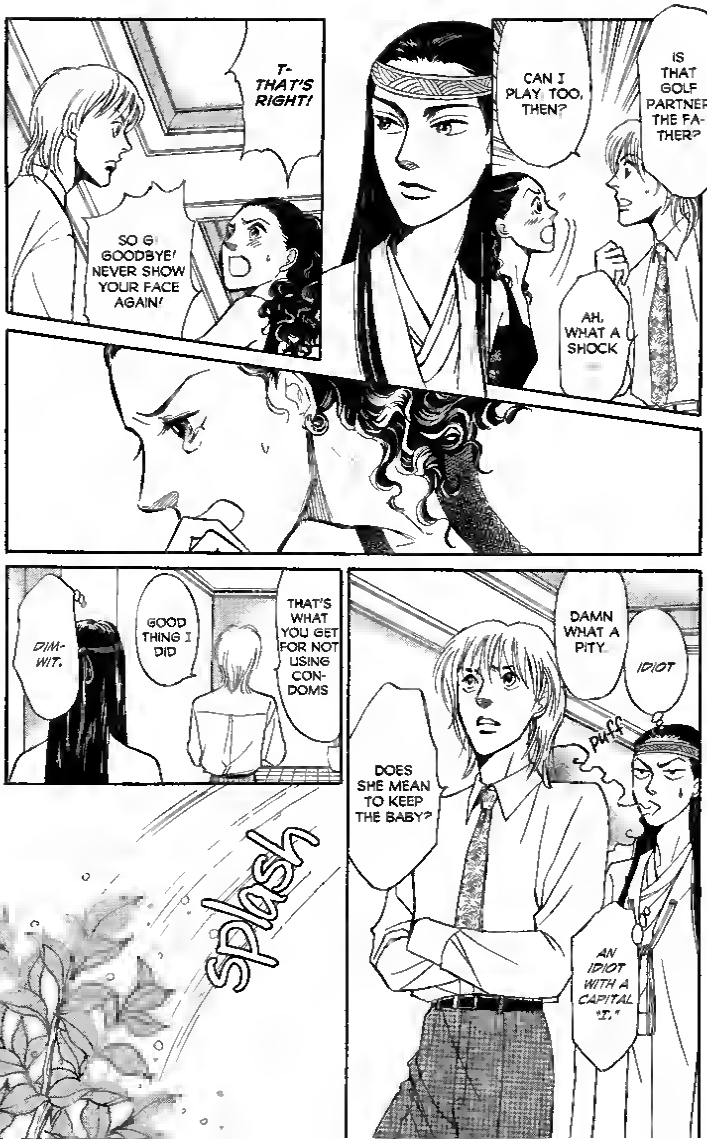
IT'S THE SAPLING YOU HAVE TO CARRY. KITA IS ONLY YOUR GUIDE.
OH I WILL CARRY HER NO PROBLEM OK!
YOU REEK
ARE YOU "THE LEGS" ?

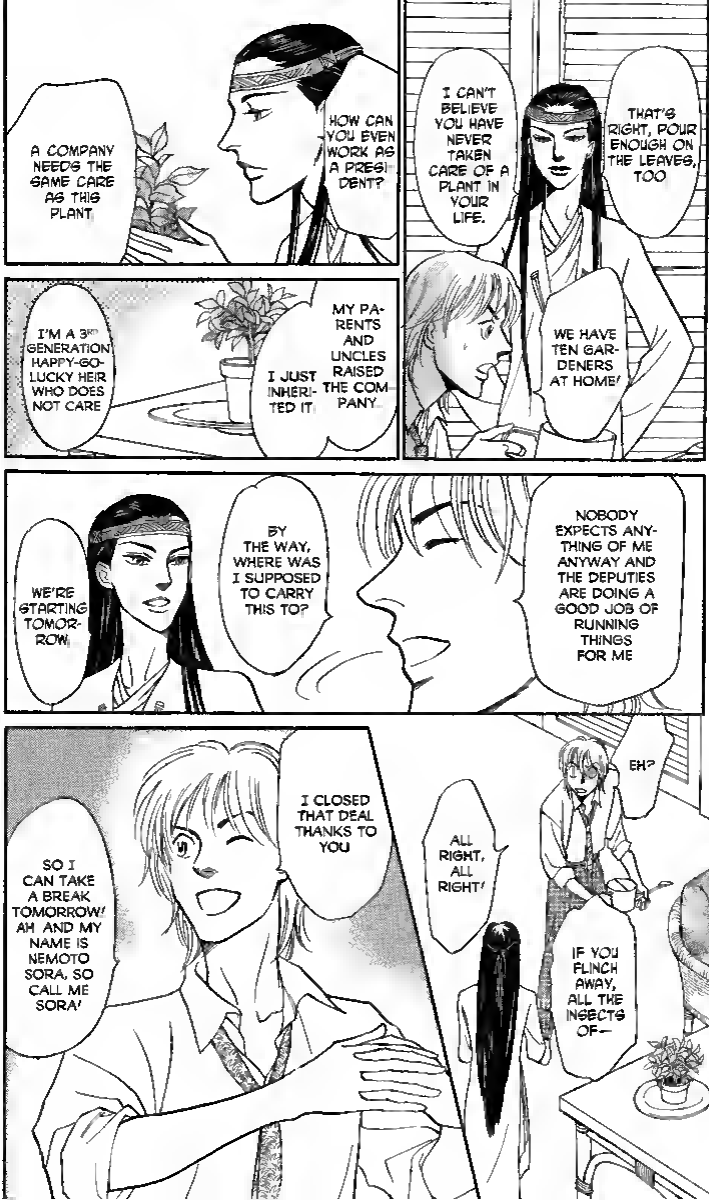
WE'RE GOING NOW, ESTEEMED ELDERS.
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, KITA.
HAVE FUN!
HUMAN! IF YOU BREAK YOUR PROMISE,
OUR CURSE WILL HANG ON TO THE LAST OF YOUR BLOOD-LINE.
DOWN TO THE LAST ONE STANDING!
Eck..
RUSTLE
IS THIS WHAT YOU CALL A "GUIDE" ...?!
HA HA HA
THIS IS THE FASTEST WAY, SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

In the mayor's office
I'M GLAD YOU'RE SAFELY OUT OF THAT FOREST..
glare
HE SAYS HE FOUND THE WAY BACK ALONE? AND IT'S BEEN LESS THAN HALF A DAY!
IMPOS-SIBLE HE'S NOT HUMAN.
MY GRANDDAD USED TO SAY THAT BOGEYS FOLLOW THE PEOPLE WHO'VE RETURNED FROM BEING SPIRITED AWAY...
mumble
mumble
AH, I MEAN, WHAT GREAT LUCK YOU HAVE! WHAT A RELIEF.
Right here
whisper
BUT I CAN'T SAY ANY-THING LIKE THAT...
ANYWAY... SO IT TURNS OUT THAT PLACE WAS THE "CURSED FOREST" AND NOBODY EVER GOES CLOSE TO IT, EH...
AND RUMORS SAY MANY ACCIDENTS HAPPEN THERE, EH... WHAT A PROBLEM.
DID YOU GIVE US AWAY?
NO, I DIDN'T!
I SAID, I DIDN'T DO IT!
YOU STOOL PIGEON!
HALF-PRICE.

PRESIDEN HOW GOOD TO SEE YOU!
EHM... ARE YOU HURT SOME-WHERE?
THE DEAL IS CLOSED!
DOOM
...AND I MIGHT BE PERSUADED TO BUY IT
YOU SAID NOBODY CAN SEE YOU?
YES
THANK YOU, KITA!
YOU'RE SO CALM ABOUT IT..
IF YOU DON'T DO THIS NOW,
SOMEONE ELSE WILL COME AND DO IT ALL THE SAME
IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT TO HELP ME? I'LL NEED TO CUT DOWN TREES TO MAKE THE RESORT AND THE THEME PARK.
THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF STINKY HUMANS. TOO

HEEY! MONAMI-CHAAAN!
EXCUSE ME
I CAME HERE ON A GOLD INVITATION
DEFINITELY NOT FOR YOU..
DID YOU COME RUNNING WHEN YOU HEARD I'VE HAD AN ACCIDENT? I'M TOUCHED!
NO, I DIDN'T!
FANCY SEEING YOU IN SUCH A PROVINCIAL HOTEL!
CONGRATULATIONS
...!
I... I'M PREGNANT!
ARE YOU FREE TONIGHT? I HAD SOME THRILLING EXPERIENCES TODAY I WANT TO TELL YOU ABOUT
AND WE'RE IN THE SAME HOTEL, SO...


T-THAT'S RIGHT!
SO G GOODBYE! NEVER SHOW YOUR FACE AGAIN!
CAN I PLAY TOO, THEN?
IS THAT GOLF PARTNER THE FATHER?
AH, WHAT A SHOCK
DIM-WIT.
GOOD THING I DID
THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR NOT USING CONDOMS
splash
DAMN WHAT A PITY.
IDIOT
PUFF
DOES SHE MEAN TO KEEP THE BABY?
AN IDIOT WITH A CAPITAL "I."


A COMPANY NEEDS THE SAME CARE AS THIS PLANT
HOW CAN YOU EVEN WORK AS A PRESIDENT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU HAVE NEVER TAKEN CARE OF A PLANT IN YOUR LIFE.
THAT'S RIGHT, POUR ENOUGH ON THE LEAVES, TOO
I'M A 3RD GENERATION HAPPY-GO-LUCKY HEIR WHO DOES NOT CARE
I JUST INHERITED IT
MY PARENTS AND UNCLES RAISED THE COMPANY
WE HAVE TEN GARDENERS AT HOME!
WE'RE STARTING TOMORROW
BY THE WAY, WHERE WAS I SUPPOSED TO CARRY THIS TO?
NOBODY EXPECTS ANYTHING OF ME ANYWAY AND THE DEPUTIES ARE DOING A GOOD JOB OF RUNNING THINGS FOR ME
SO I CAN TAKE A BREAK TOMORROW! AH AND MY NAME IS NEMOTO SORA, SO CALL ME SORA!
I CLOSED THAT DEAL THANKS TO YOU
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT!
EH?
IF YOU FLINCH AWAY, ALL THE INSECTS OF—

SORA..
SKY
I'M STARTING TO LIKE YOU
THANK YOU.
HEY, THERE'S A MISTAKE IN THE PRESIDENT'S TICKETS?
THE TICKET FOR HIS RETURN TO TOKYO THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW...
EH?
WHAT WERE THEY DOING IN THAT TAKE-OFF AGENCY?
IT'S FOR AUSTRALIA? AND THE TAKE OFF IS TODAY?
WHAT ARE THEY MOPING ABOUT?
AH, PRESIDENT! THE AGENCY MADE A MISTAKE AND SENT YOU A TICKET FOR OVERSEAS..
IT SAYS AUSTRALIA.. WE'LL CHANGE IT RIGHT AWAY...
PRESIDENT THIS OUTFIT... ARE YOU GOING SOMEWHERE? YOU HAVE A MEETING TODAY..
I'M TAKING THIS.
PRESIDENT
I'M GOING NOW!

SEE YOU!
I'M JUST GOING ON AN INSPECTION! YOU CAN HANDLE THE MEETING WITHOUT ME, RIGHT?
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
WOW!
YOU FORESTS GODS DON'T FOOL AROUND, DO YOU
YES, UNLIKE HUMANS
I GOT WHAT WAS COMING TO ME
I WANTED TO MAKE SORA JEALOUS SO I SURROUNDED MYSELF WITH MEN AND LIED TO HIM ALL THE TIME
I ALWAYS SAID SUCH UGLY THINGS TO HIM
SO OF COURSE HE WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME NOW IF I TOLD HIM THE CHILD IS REALLY HIS
HE'D NEVER BELIEVE THAT I'M REALLY IN LOVE WITH HIM!
Waah!

THE PASSENGER IN THE NEXT SEAT CANCELED?
YOU'RE VERY METICULOUS WHEN YOU HAVE SOMETHING IN MIND, EH.
THE SAPLING IS SUFFERING.
LET IN SOME AIR WITHOUT ANYONE SEEING YOU.
I THINK THIS IS AGAINST THE LAW.
WHY ARE WE EVEN TAKING IT TO AUSTRALIA?
WE'RE NOT.
Carrying plants in or out of the country is a crime.

IT DOES.
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN LOST FOR A LONG TIME DIDN'T YOU HEAR WHEN THAT WOMAN TOLD YOU SHE WAS PREGNANT...
NO? THEN I DON'T THINK YOU'VE LOST ME THERE
SO WHAT? IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME
AH, YOU MEAN MONAMI?
PRETEND YOU DON'T SEE ANYTHING
HEY... THAT MAN IS TALKING TO HIMSELF...
YOU WERE THE MALE FLOWER AND SHE WAS THE FEMALE FLOWER. AND THE FRUIT SHE CONCEIVED IS YOURS
YOU USE BAD WORDS ON PURPOSE, PLAY WITH THEM AND CREATE ONLY NOISE
YOU HAVE WORDS AND YET YOU CANNOT COMMUNICATE AMONG YOURSELVES
ECK!
IT HAD EXPIRED
IMPOSSIBLE! I REALLY USED A-

YOUR SIX SENSES HAVE DULLED, JUST AS THE ELDER SAID.
THE SOUL OF YOUR OTHER HALF IS SUFFERING AND YET YOU DO NOT HEAR HER
ARE YOU THAT OBLIVIOUS TO THE HEARTS OF THOSE AROUND YOU?
CLEAR YOUR HEART AND THINK.
DEFINITELY NOT FOR YOU!
NEVER SHOW YOUR FACE AGAIN!
THAT PROUD WOMAN WOULD SEARCH ESPECIALLY FOR MY HOTEL?
I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'D DO THAT...
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
SHE WANTED YOU TO KNOW THIS AT ANY RATE.

FLASH
SHAKE
KYAAAH!
THUNDER
WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
HOW COME WE WEREN'T INFORMED OF SUCH A HUGE THUNDERSTORM?
THE COMMUNICATION LINES ARE OUT OF ORDER!

DARK
THUD
ALL PASSENGERS, PLEASE REMAIN CALM!
LOWER YOUR HEADS AND DON'T STAND UP!
I'M SORRY, THE SAPLING...
THUD

AN AIRPORT? IN WHOSE TERRITORIAL AIRSPACE ARE WE?
ANY CONTACT FROM THE CONTROL TOWER?
LET'S JUST LAND THE ENGINES ARE LOSING POWER.
OUR COMMUNICATIONS AREN'T WORKING
BUT THE LIGHT FORMATION ON THE LANDING SITE SAY WE CAN LAND DIRECTLY
IS THAT MORSE CODE? ALL RIGHT THEN...
ゴゴゴ
AN AIRPORT!
WE'RE SAVED, KITA...
SFX. KUMIFLE

SIE?
SIE?
COME ON, THEN
LET'S GO.
KITA?
WHY ARE THERE SO MANY PLANES IN THE JUNGLE?
THERE ARE OTHER PLANES
KITA IS MOVING IN A DIFFERENT WAY

HELLO, "LEGS NUMBER 5"!
JUST A LITTLE MORE..
LEAVE THE SAPLING HERE
LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING IS ABOUT TO START

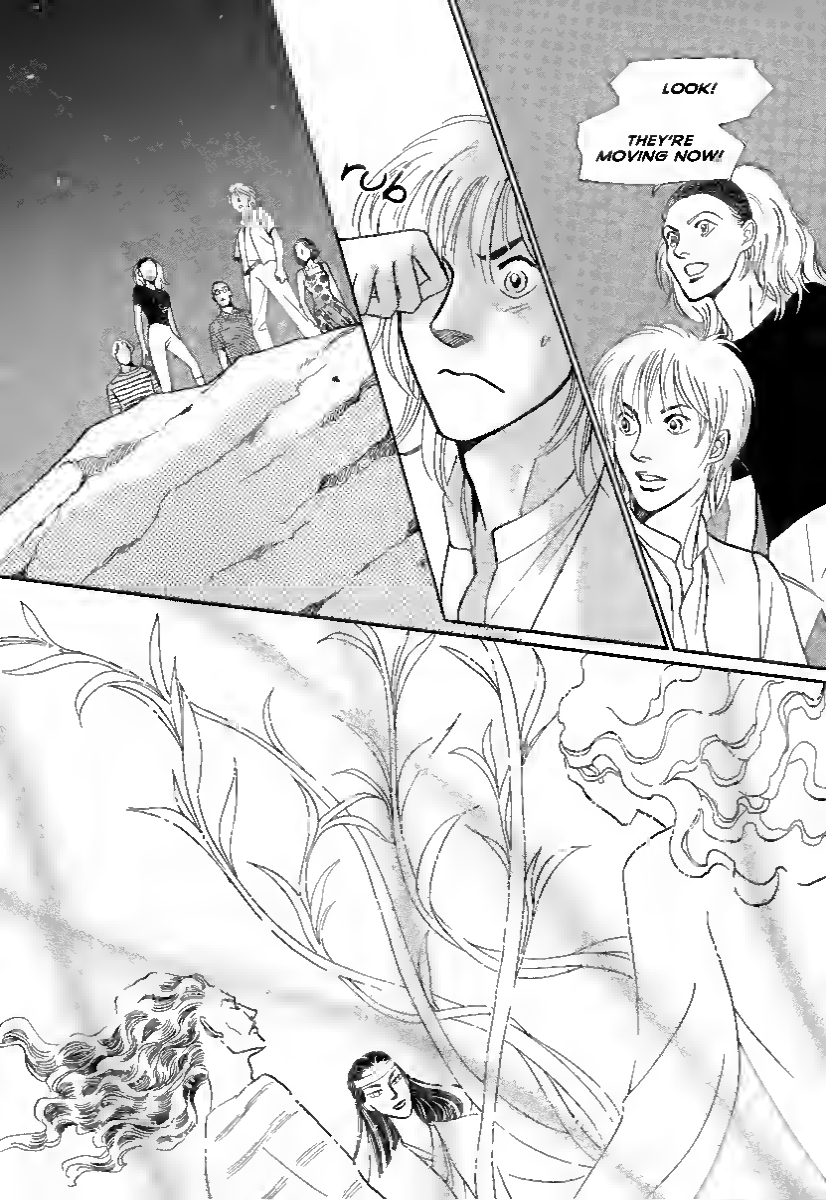
HER FRIENDS?
FOUR OTHERS EXCEPT KITA...
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, EVERY ONE.
FOR TWO HUNDRED MILLION YEARS, WE HAVE BEEN APART.

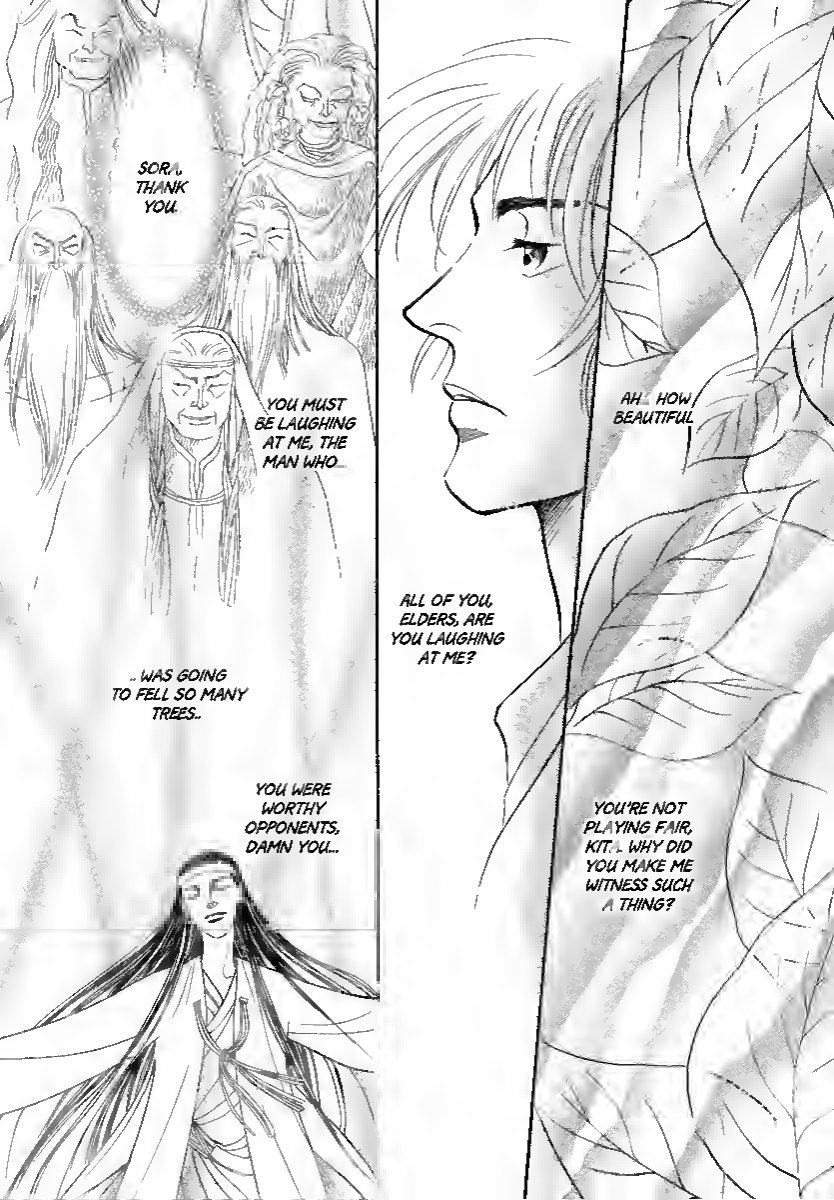
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WAIT AND SEE FOR YOURSELF.
ALL I KNOW IS THAT THE FIFTH PAIR OF "LEGS" SEEMS VERY CLUELESS.
BUT NOW WE ARE FINALLY ABLE TO GATHER IN ONE PLACE AGAIN.
SO ALL OF US HAD TO GROW IN DIFFE-RENT PLACES
IT WAS SUCH A SAD OCCASION WHEN THE OLD CONTINENT OF PANGAEA BROKE APART.
AS EXPECTED. AFTER ALL, JAPAN IS PART OF EURASIA. THUS, WE HAVE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL FIVE CONTINENTS.
I'M FROM CANADA. SHE IS FROM BRAZIL AND SHE - FROM AUSTRALIA. HE IS FROM SUDAN. YOU'RE FROM JAPAN
HAHAHAHA!
THEY LOST ME... I DON'T FOLLOW ANY OF THEM...
AND OVER THERE ARE THE TREES OF THE FIVE GREAT LAND MASSES... THEIR SPIRIS, IF YOU WILL.
EVERY-THING STARTED FROM ONE SINGLE CELL...
THEN CAME THE LEAVES AND BRAN-CHES
TOO BAD THAT IF WE TOLD ANYONE ABOUT THIS, NOBODY WOULD BELIEVE US.

THEY FED OTHER LIFE FORMS
WHO DISAP-PEARED IN TIME
BUT WE, THE PLANTS, EGOISTICALLY AND LIGHT-HEARTEDLY WATCHED EVOLUTION TAKE ITS COURSE
WE WATCHED OTHER EGO-ISTICAL LIFE FORMS TREAD ON US... AND THEN HUMANS APPEARED...
THEY TURNED OUT TO BE MORE EGOISTICAL THAN US...
THAT IS WHY TODAY...
I HAVE GATHERED ALL OF YOU HERE.
OUR OWN EVOLUTION CANNOT KEEP UP WITH THE SEVERE NATURAL SELECTION AT WORK THESE LAST CENTURIES
LISTEN WELL. NEXT YEAR, I WILL BE TAKEN TO HEAVEN...
IT MAKES ME SAD KNOWING THAT I WILL HAVE TO LEAVE THIS LAND

I WILL SPREAD MY ROOTS THROUGH THE EMPTY SKIES. THE CIRCLE OF LIFE AND DEATH MUST TAKE ITS COURSE.
THE SKIES ..?
HOW WELL SAID
IT'S A PITY, BUT THE SAME GOES FOR US AS WELL, ON THIS LAND...
WE HAVE TO LIVE ON THE WATER AND SOIL MANKIND POLLUTED.
WE ARE AT A DISADVANTAGE HERE
WE MUST PREPARE OURSELVES,
AND ADVANCE TOWARDS THE HUMAN WORLD
HOW WILL YOU DO THAT ...?
ELECTRO-MAGNETIC WAVES ARE CONVENIENT. WE CAN USE THEM TO CONVEY OUR THOUGHTS TO OTHERS WHO ARE A VERY LONG WAY.
WE ARE GATHERED HERE TODAY THANKS TO THE ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES, TOO.

SOMETIMES EVEN HUMANS HAVE GOOD IDEAS.
ISN'T IT TIME THAT WE, TOO, PICKED THE FRUITS OF THOSE IDEAS?
THEY MUST BE SPRAYED WITH WATER!
THEY'VE BEEN STANDING STILL FOR 20 MINUTES THEY'RE SURE TAKING IT EASY.
AH, ALMOST FORGOT! SINCE THE SAPLINGS HAD TO STAY IN THE SUITCASES WHILE ABOARD—
LET US POUR STRENGTH INTO THE SAPLINGS, THEN.
TOGETHER WITH THE WISDOM OF ALL FIVE GREAT LAND MASSES.
IT'S THE BIRTH OF THE NEXT GREEN!


LOOK!
THEY'RE MOVING NOW!
rub

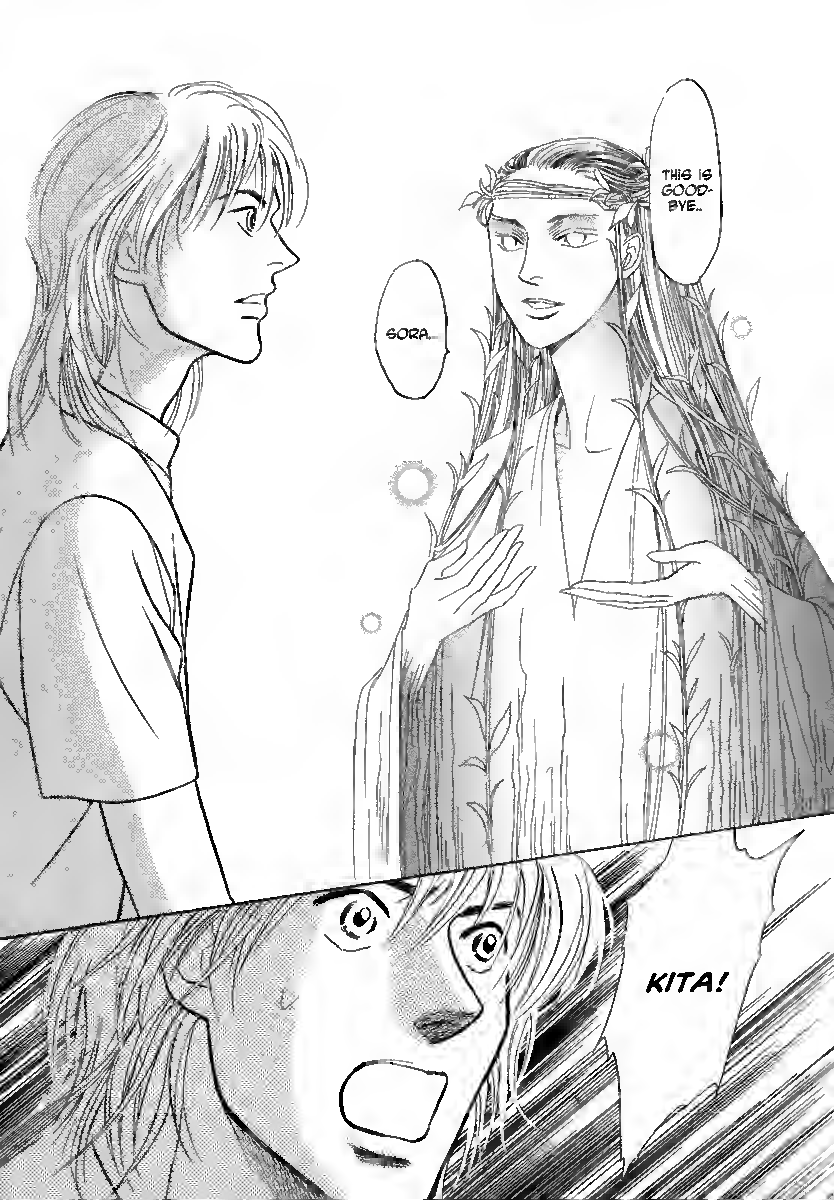

SORA, THANK YOU.
YOU MUST BE LAUGHING AT ME, THE MAN WHO...
..WAS GOING TO FELL SO MANY TREES..
YOU WERE WORTHY OPPONENTS, DAMN YOU...
ALL OF YOU, ELDERS, ARE YOU LAUGHING AT ME?
AH... HOW BEAUTIFUL
YOU'RE NOT PLAYING FAIR, KIT... WHY DID YOU MAKE ME WITNESS SUCH A THING?

THE GREAT TREE IS COMPLETELY GONE NOW... IT'S LIKE IT NEVER HAPPENED
I WONDER IF THESE TINY SAPLINGS WILL BECOME HUUUUUGE TREES?
LET'S GO BACK TO OUR PLANES SEE YOU AGAIN FELLOW-"LEGS"
IT WAS GREAT MEETING YOU!
BYE-BYE!
AND HE IS A CHEEKY NASA "LEGS" WHO SECRETLY BROUGHT BUGS ON BOARD
WHAT?!
They made me do it
EVERYONE, GIVE ME A CALL WHEN YOU GET HOME!
DID YOU HEAR? THIS GUY OWNS A LAND DEVELOPMENT COMPANY!
WHAT?!
WHAT A CHOICE FOR "LEGS"!
Wow...
YOU MUST BE HUNGRY. IT'S ALMOST TIME TO SERVE THE SNACKS
KITA!
DID THE FLORAL SUMMIT GO WELL?
YES, THANK YOU, SORA.
YOU FULFILLED YOUR PROMISE
SEE?
YOU'RE NOT TAKING ME AROUND THE WORLD, ARE YOU?!

GORA.
YOU HAVEN'T HAD ANY WATER FOR SO LONG... YOU MUST BE VERY TIRED. KITA?
WE'RE FINALLY BACK IN JAPAN.
YOU HAVE GREAT BRANCHES AND DEEP ROOTS
YOU ARE NOT AS POWERLESS AS YOU THINK YOU ARE.
I JUST HAVE TO TAKE YOU BACK TO THE FOREST RIGHT?
IS HERE ALL RIGHT?
WHY ARE YOU GETTING SO PHILOSOPHICAL?
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GROW IT TO ITS FULL POTENTIAL.
BUT WEREN'T YOU TAKING IT BACK TO TO THE FOREST?
GORA
I WANT TO ASK YOU ONE MORE THING.

MANY PEOPLE WILL GATHER TO THIS SPOT AND REST
THIS IS THE BEST SPOT IN THE WHOLE RESORT I'M PLANNING TO BUILD
RAISE IT WITH CARE AND LOVE.
I'LL MAKE SURE IT GROWS INTO A GIANT TREE WITH A PLACE FOR EVERYONE BELOW ITS BRANCHES
THIS TREE REPRESENTS THE DEAREST WISHES OF MY KIN
EVEN WORDS HAVE THEIR LIMIT. THE ELDERS AND I HAVE ALREADY USED UP ALL OF OURS
YOU JUST ANSWERED OUR PRAYERS
KITA.
BUT NOW WE CAN REST EASY.
YOU GAVE VOICE TO THOSE WHO HAD NONE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...? YOU ARE SO... SO ELOQUENT, YOU ALWAYS FIND THE WORDS
nushi nushi
BECAUSE YOU FEEL US, SORA.
AND WE CAN REMAIN FRIENDS EVEN FROM NOW ON, CAN'T WE?
IT'S TOO LATE
IT'S ABOUT THE RESORT, I CAN PLAN IT SO IT WON'T BOTHER YOU OR THE ELDERS!
THIS IS THE LAST TIME I LOOK LIKE THIS, THE LAST TIME I USE WORDS.
AFTER ALL, IF YOU HADN'T TOLD ME ABOUT MONAMI, I—


THIS IS GOOD-BYE..
SORA...
KITA!

KITA!
RAISE ME WITH CARE AND LOVE..
IF THE HOLO OF MY ROOTS IS STRONG ENOUGH..
ONE DAY WE MIGHT MEET AGAIN

Check the hospitals!
He's not at the airport, either!
HOW DARE HE GET INTO A DISAPPEARING PLANE ACCIDENT! I'M WORRIED SICK HERE!
President!
SORA, THAT IDIOT!
sob
wail
WHERE ARE YOU, SORAAAA?!
KITA..
HERE!
PRESIDENT!
I'M BACK!
OPEN
WHY ARE YOU ALL LINED UP IN THE LOBBY?!

SORA~
HOP!
WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL US?!
STOMP
STOMP
WE WERE SO WORRIED!
PRESIDENT!
YES...!
KYAH!
LET'S SEE NOW
OOOOH!!
THE CRYSTALLIZATION OF OUR LOVE IS RIGHT IN HERE!
LISTEN EVERYONE! THIS IS OUR BABY!

ALL RIGHT, LET'S HAVE A CEREMONY RIGHT HOW
EH?!
IF YOU DON'T WANT A WEDDING CEREMONY, I CAN GO FOR A ROUND OF CONCEPTION TOO
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT HOW COULD I BECOME SERIOUS ABOUT A FLIGHTY MAN LIKE YOU...?
I...I DID
ISN'T THIS RIGHT, MONAMI?
IN THE END YOU CHOSE ONLY ME
WELL?
AHHH I'M REALLY FALLING INTO YOUR PACE
Glomp!
YES!
Peace!
Long live the President!

I WONDER IF THEN, THIS SAPLING WILL BE AS BIG AS THE GIANT TREE I SAW.
BUT, MAYBE I WILL MEET YOU AGAIN ONE DAY, KITA-ELDERS.
WHEN I REALIZED WHAT I WAS DOING, PEOPLE HAD ALREADY NICK-NAMED ME "THE PRESI-DENT OF EDEN."
I STARTED BUYING LOTS AND LOTS OF FLOWERS AND TREES AND TAKING CARE OF THEM.
PRESIDENT, WHY ARE WE HAVING OUR MEETING AT SUCH A PLACE?
THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING!
IN ORDER TO BUILD THE GREATEST FOREST THEME PARK,
I DECIDED WE MUST LISTEN TO WHAT THE FOREST HAS TO SAY ABOUT IT.
EH...
SO? CAN YOU HEAR THE BREATH OF THE TREES, RELEASING PHYTOCIDES?
ON TODAY'S MEETING, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF POTTED PLANTS! USE THE EX-PERIENCE WHEN WRITING YOUR PROPOSALS AFTERWARDS.
HAHA... I THINK I DO...
OR MAYBE NOT..

KITA. I KNOW WHAT YOU PLANNED,
WHEN YOU MADE ME PLANT THAT SAPLING
WHAT YOU REALLY WANTED WAS TO STRIKE YOUR ROOTS INTO MY HEART
THE OTHER "LEGS" SAID IT, TOO
EVERYONE WHO GOES NEAR THE SAPLINGS,
CAN FEEL THEM TAKING ROOT IN THEIR HEARTS
YOU HAD SOME NERVE, KITA..
RIGHT ON THE MARK
WE'RE A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM ALL OTHER PLANTS BEFORE US

WE ARE ALL...
?
...SUCH STUBBORN, STURDY CREATURES, FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES.

http://www.aerandria.net

AERANDRIA

THE RAPID TOOLS BEHIND YOUR FAVORITE RELEASES!

Mermaid Syndrome

Chapter 03

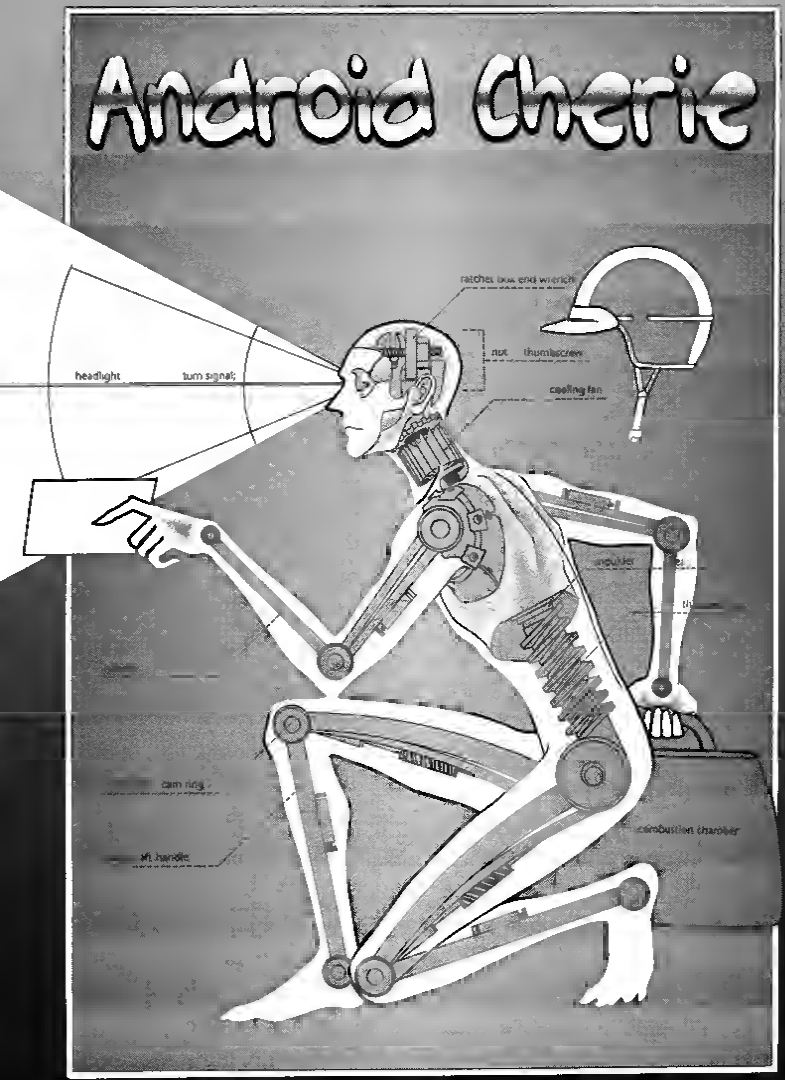
Lacaille :SCANNER
Mari :TRANSLATOR
Lacaille :PROOFREADER
Macbeth :EDITORS
Lacaille :QUALITY CHECK

...ch me page 7 ...uld have you laugh out loud! XD

– Lacaille

...rc // irchighway.net/#aerandria

Android Cherie



IT'S THE BIRTH OF THE NEW REAL TYPE ANDROID "CHERIE"...!
YOU'RE A GENIUS, PROFESSOR! HURRAY TO THE PROFESSOR!
CHEER
PROJECT COMPLETE!
PROFESSOR, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IT! ACTIVATE IT NOW!
HAHAHA! HE'S RIGHT BEHIND YOU NOW!
EH?
WHAT A JOKER YOU ARE...
NICE TO MEET YOU. I AM CHERIE.
shake
shake
SFX POP

WHICH WAS CREATED UNDER THE BANNER OF THE GREATER GOOD OF MANKIND.
AND NOW, FOR THE QUESTION OF THE PROPER PROCEDURES FOR FIELD TESTING OF THE ANDROID CHERIE.
MAY I HAVE A WORD ON THAT CHAIRMAN?
MR. SWANSON?
DO YOU KNOW WHICH COUNTRY IN THE WORLD
IS MOST INTIMATELY USED TO HAVING INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS IN EVERY-DAY LIFE?
HUSH. DON'T WAKE HIM.
AMERICA
JAPAN
JAPAN.
TO ENSURE SAFE FIELD TESTING OF THE ANDROID I THINK IT SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN A COUNTRY.
WHERE PEOPLE HAVE THE LEAST POSSIBLE AVERSION TO TECHNOLOGICAL NOVELTIES
WHICH COUNTRY ARE YOU REFERRING TO?
NO OBJECTIONS TO THAT
I AGREE, TOO
BANG! BANG!
IN THAT CASE BY UNANIMOUS VOTE THE MATTER IS SETTLED!

CURRENTLY, THE COMPETENT MINISTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS ARE CONSIDERING THE APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO TAKE.
THANKS FOR THE HARD WORK!
AND THUS, THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DECIDED THAT THE FIELD TESTING OF THE ANDROID SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN JAPAN
STOP
STOP
STOP
WHAT?!
DO YOU REMEMBER THE ANDROID FROM YESTERDAY'S NEWS? IT'S HERE WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
EVERYONE
CHIEF?
HEY, WHAT DO YOU WANT TO HAVE FOR LUNCH?
UGH SO COLD

YAMADA-KUN, YOU'RE STARTING IN-DOORS WORK FROM NOW ON.
I AM?
EVEN THOUGH HE FAILED THE QUALIFICA-TION EXAM?!
EH?
WHY HIM ?
IN RETURN, YOU WILL EDUCATE THE ANROID TO BECOME A PROFESSIONAL DELIVERYMAN.
WHAT ...?!
EDUCATE...
..THE ANROID?
AND SO, GENTLE-MEN,
OUR POST OFFICE WILL HAVE TO MAKE REGULAR REPORTS ON THE PROGRESS.
THIS IS AN HONOR FOR US

SILENCE
I'M SURE THAT WITH YOUR COMBINED EFFORTS THE ANDROID WILL SOON BLAH BLAH BLAH..
DO YOUR BEST, YAMADA.
I'LL... TRY..
I WONDER WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE?
I'M KIND OF SCARED
I SAW ROBOCOP ON TV LAST NIGHT
SFX: BANG
HOOOOM...
crumble
crumble

YOU HAVE MAIL
SIGN HERE RESISTANCE IS FUTILE
The Robocop Image
gulp
AND NOW, LET ME INTRO-DUCE CHERIE.
SI-SI-SI-
GN-GN-GN..
SIGN, PWETTY PWEASE..
STEP FORWARD, MR CHERIE.

PLEASE, GREET HIM.
THIS IS MR. CHERIE.
OPEN
NICE TO MEET YOU
MY NAME IS CHERIE.

PLEASE, TREAT ME WELL.
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO THE PLEASURE OF WORKING WITH ALL OF YOU
AND I'M GRATEFUL FOR THIS APPOINT-MENT
—
YES!
C-CHERIE-KUN WILL BE IN THE DELIVERY SECTION YAMADA-KUN. AND ALL THE REST OF YOU. PLEASE TEACH HIM EVERYTHING THAT IS NECESSARY
AHEM!
YAMADA-SAN! EVERY-ONE! I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR TUTELAGE
AH, YEAH!
YEAH!

THE POLICE REFUSED US, THE ARMY REFUSED US, EVEN THE FIRE FIGHTERS REFUSED US..
THE POSTAL WORKERS WERE OUR LAST HOPE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
CHIEF!
HOW WAS IT? HOW DID CHERIE ACT?
OPEN
YOU'RE WELCOME... BUT IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT'S AN ANDROID
HE WAS SO POLITE AND WELL-MANNERED THAT I FELT THE URGE TO MARRY HIM OFF TO MY DAUGHTER...
IN THAT CASE WRITE IN YOUR FIRST REPORT THAT EVERYTHING WENT EXCEEDINGLY WELL
WE'RE GOING ON OUR DELIVERY ROUTE TOGETHER TODAY. REMEMBER THE WAY WELL
AND NOW GET ON!
YES.
THAT'S THE JAPANESE FOR YOU.
I MEAN, HE'S A WONDERFUL YOUNG MAN
HE ACCEPTED SUCH A HIGH-STATE-OF-THE-ART ROBOT SO EASILY

*ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

I HAVE TO BE MORE CONSIDERATE IN THE FUTURE.
AH, THAT STARTLED ME.
VROOOOOOOOOOM
BLOCK ONE HOUSE 5-10, KOMAKI-SAN
WAS THIS SATISFACTORY?
PERFECT
I MEMORIZED THE MAP OF THE AREA BEFOREHAND
THAT'S AMAZING!
IT'S ALL JUST COMPUTER SYSTEMS.
EVEN SO, YOU'RE VERY WELL MADE
YOU DON'T PICK FIGHTS, YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT YOUR WORK YOU'RE SO WELL-MANNERED.
I CAN'T EVEN BELIEVE I'M TALKING TO A MACHINE

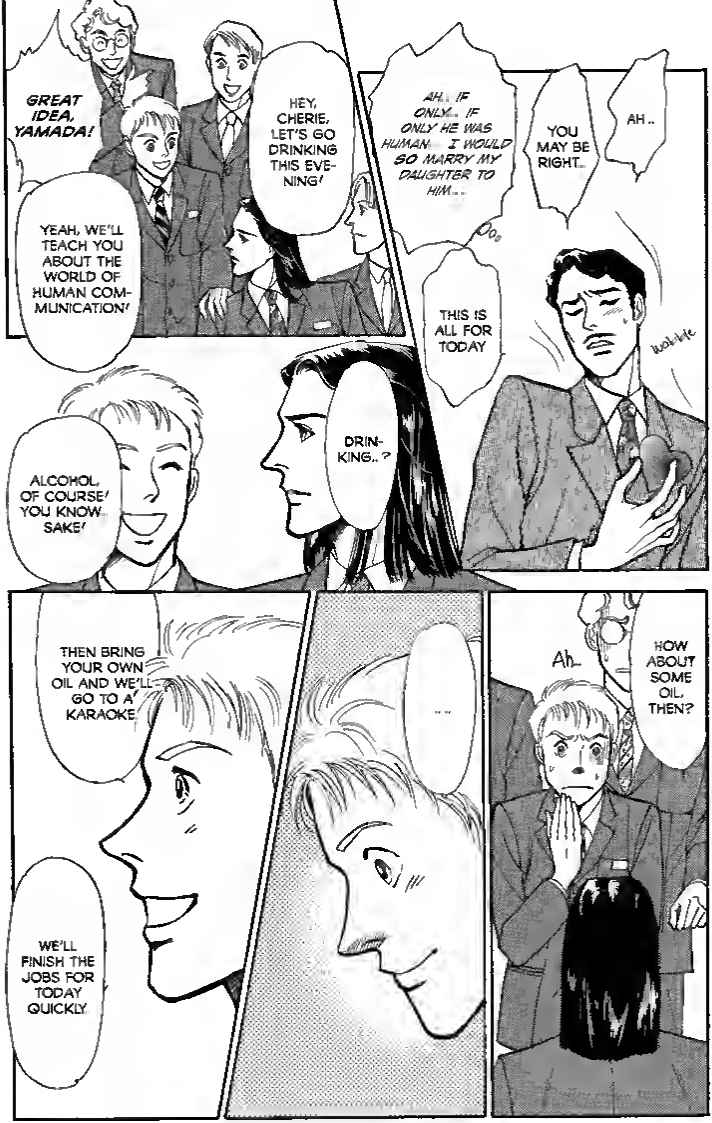
YOU CAN'T BELIEVE IT?
I SEE IN THAT CASE
?
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU MEN DOING IN FRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE'S HOMES?
LOOK!
WAH!
MIYA-WAKI-SAN!
IF IT ISN'T YAMADA-SAN I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE OF MY SORT
I-IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
MIYAWAKI-SAN, YOU HAVE MAIL
HEH HEH, I GET A LETTER FROM MY DARLING EVERY MONDAY
I GET SO EXCITED EVERY TIME I HEAR THE BELL OF THE DELIVERY MAN!
AH? BUT AREN'T YOU THE INFAMOUS CHERIE?
IT'S AN HONOR TO MEET YOU!

LET'S BE FRIENDS
OF COURSE
AH YOUR BUTTON IS UN-DONE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
WHAT A PROBLEM...
I REALLY CAN'T SEE HIM AS A MACHINE
GOOD MORNING!
HE'S SUCH A...
ARE YOU THE AN-DROID?
NICE GUY...

EH
GOOD
I WILL WORK HARD TODAY AS WELL
G-GOOD MORNING CHERIE
SO WHAT'S UP?
GOOD MORNING
HE SHOWED ME THIS INCREDIBLY COMPLEX MECHANISM HE HAS
WOW!
HEY... IS HE REALLY A MACHINE?
IF NECESSARY THAT CAN BE ARRANGED
YEAH, AND SHOOT MISSILES FROM THEIR ARMS?
DON'T ANDROIDS USUALLY RUN VERY FAST AND FLY AND SO ON..?
GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE!
AFTER ALL, BEING IN THE POST IS MUCH SAFER, RIGHT?
Ha ha!
NO! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ANTI WAR!
HA HA HA... THEN YOU'D BE MORE FIT FOR THE ARMY

WE HAD SEVERAL CALLS OF GRATITUDE FROM CITIZENS, SAYING YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL NEW ADDITION TO OUR RANKS.
cough
FOR TODAY'S MORNING ASSEMBLY, I HAVE SOME VERY HEART-WARMING NEWS FOR ALL OF US.
"I WAS MOVED SO MUCH THE VERY FIRST TIME WE SPOKE"... WHAT ARE THESE RESPONSES?
"VERY POLITE MANNERS"... "GREAT ATTENTION TO DETAIL"... "POLITE PERSONAL TOUCHES"...
EH?
I'M TALKING ABOUT CHERIE
Yeah!
HE'S PROGRAMMED TO SAY THESE THINGS
HE'S JUST A MACHINE, RIGHT...?
PROFESSOR...
YES, THIS WILL MAKE A GREAT PROGRESS REPORT.

CHERIE HAS COMMENDABLE WORK BEHAVIOR YOU SHOULD ALL LEARN FROM HIM–
CHIEF!
I'M A MACHINE. THAT'S ONLY NATURAL FOR ME
AND BECAUSE I'M A MACHINE, I ONLY MIMIC WHAT I HAVE BEEN SHOWN TO DO
I AM NOT INFLUENCED BY THE EMOTIONS THAT SWAY THE OTHERS EVERY DAY
THAT'S WHY I CAN'T FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS YOU HAVE SET. BUT NEITHER CAN I GO HIGHER
I DO NOT LIKE IT THAT YOU SET ME AS AN EXAMPLE TO EVERYONE ELSE
EVERYONE ELSE IS WHO I SHOULD TAKE EXAMPLE FROM
GRAPE SHOT!
AH... MY HEART...


GREAT IDEA, YAMADA!
HEY, CHERIE, LET'S GO DRINKING THIS EVENING!
YEAH, WE'LL TEACH YOU ABOUT THE WORLD OF HUMAN COMMUNICATION!
AH, IF ONLY... IF ONLY HE WAS HUMAN... I WOULD SO MARRY MY DAUGHTER TO HIM...
AH..
YOU MAY BE RIGHT..
THIS IS ALL FOR TODAY
Ho!Ho!
DRINKING..?
ALCOHOL, OF COURSE! YOU KNOW SAKE!
THEN BRING YOUR OWN OIL AND WE'LL GO TO A KARAOKE
WE'LL FINISH THE JOBS FOR TODAY QUICKLY
...
Ah..
HOW ABOUT SOME OIL, THEN?

TODAY, AFTER REGULAR WORKING HOURS, CHERIE TOOK PART IN A RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY CALLED KARAOKE BOX (FOR KARAOKE BOX, PLEASE REFER TO THE ATTACHED REPORT) IN A GROUP OF FIFTEEN COWORKERS
UNDER HIS SUPERVISOR'S DIRECTION, HE SANG 5 SONGS
AH...! PROFESSOR!
HM... THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT
CHERIE, LET'S SING A DUET!
WE'LL GO, TOO!
Stampede
V12000000M
AH, ANOTHER LETTER FROM MY FOOL OF A SON
YOU HAVE A SON MADAM?
AH, THANK YOU COME IN COME IN
GOOD MORNING YOU HAVE MAIL, MADAM
THE SMOOTHNESS OF HIS COMMUNICATION SKILLS WITH HUMANS IS SURPRISING EVEN TO US

NO, THE SUCCESS OF THE PRESENT STATE OF THE FIELD TESTING OF ANDROID CHERIE THE RESULTS ACHIEVED—
COULDN'T BE BETTER
tsye tsye
WITH THIS REPORT, WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUCCESS OF CHERIE'S INTEGRATION IN..
HIS UNDERSTANDING OF LANGUAGE USAGE IS SUPERB!
NOT TOO CHATTY, HONEST AND STEADY CONVERSATION... EVEN HIS CHIEF IS SWOONING OVER HIM!
JUST WAIT AND SEE! HE'LL MAKE IT TO EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH!
CHEERS TO THAT!
THE ANDROID CHERIE...
BUT REALLY, WHAT SELFISH CREATURES HUMANS ARE
..CAN HANDLE NOT ONLY COMPLEX WORK, BUT ALSO EMOTIONAL RESPONSES!
HE'S A PERFECTLY SAFE MACHINE!

I'M NOT... GENTLE I WAS PUT TOGETHER TO RESPOND IN SUCH A WAY
AH, AND YOU'RE HUMBLE, TOO
I WISH MY STUPID SON WAS AS GENTLE AS YOU ARE, CHERIE. HE'S ALREADY FORTY AND DOESN'T HAVE A YEN TO HIS NAME
HE SPENT ALL HE HAD. HE JUST DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS RIGHT
THE POLAR OPPOSITE OF MY SON. TO BE SURE
I HAVE TO LEAVE NOW.
OF COURSE. THANK YOU. UNTIL NEXT TIME.
CHERIE, EH.
SO SERIOUS AND HONEST... I WISH HE WERE MY SON
HEH HEH. WE'RE BOTH SUCH EGOISTS, MY SON AND I..
HEY, CHERIE!
CHERIE, GREAT WORK!

SO HOW'S IT GOING CHERIE?
MAY I SIT HERE?
YA-MADA-SAN
SURE WHAT'S WRONG?
MANY PEOPLE PRAISE ME THEY SEEM TO THINK I A MACHINE AM BETTER THAN THEIR OWN EMPLOYEES OR EVEN RELATIVES.
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S NOT A GOOD THING?
WHY DO YOU THINK SO? IT MEANS THEY LIKE YOU VERY MUCH
ARE YOU TELLING ME HUMANS LOSE THE COMPE-TITION WHEN COMPARED TO A MACHINE LIKE ME?
HUMANS SHOULD HAVE SUCH AN INCOM-PARABLY BETTER INPUT DATA THAN ME
AND IN REALITY, IT ALWAYS TURNS OUT THE OTHER WAY AROUND. IT BOTHERS ME SO MUCH

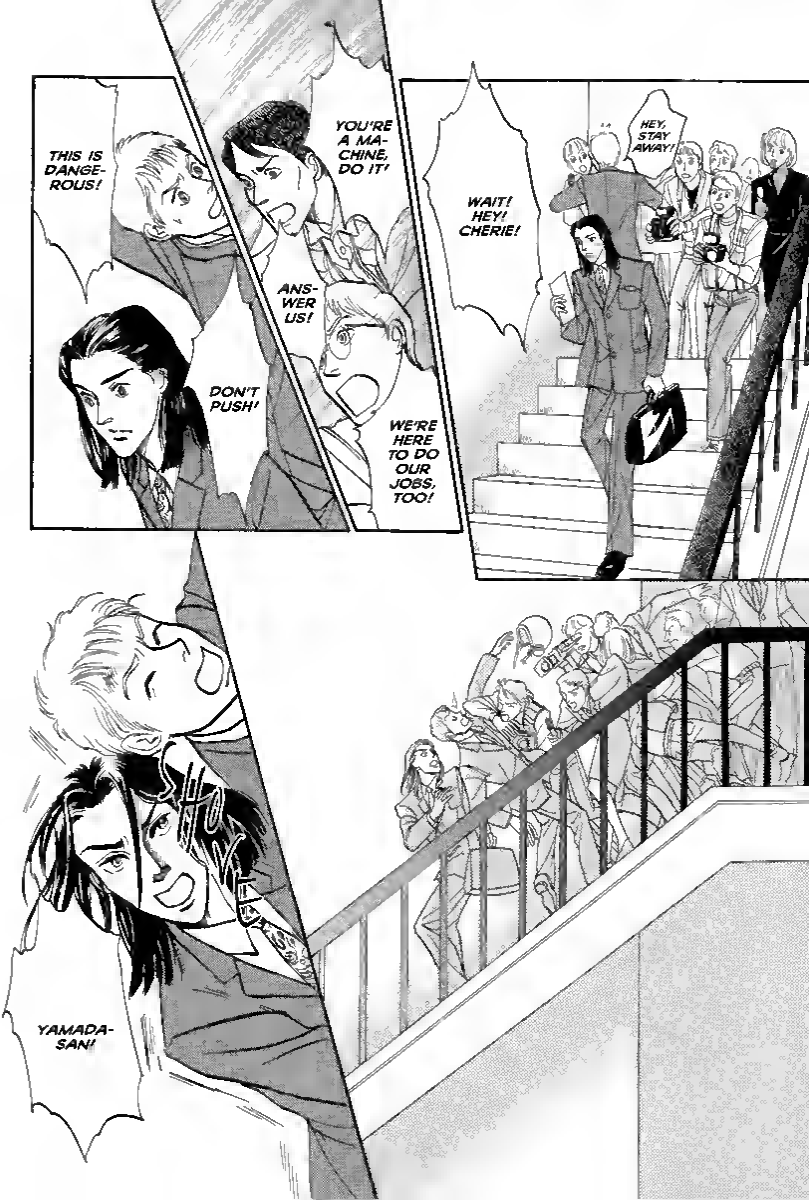
WELL, I SUPPOSE EVEN A MACHINE COULD BE SAD...
Poke Poke
"BOTHER" YOU...? EXCUSE ME, BUT...
EVEN IF PEOPLE PRAISE YOU, THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY REALLY THINK HUMANS ARE INFERIOR
CHERIE... FOR EVERY SINGLE THING HUMANS SAY, THERE ARE A HEAP OF THINGS THEY DO NOT SAY
EVEN GOD DIDN'T LABEL HUMANS IN DIFFERENT RANKS
Second at the 50 meters! Saitou!
SO YOU CAN'T REALLY RANK PEOPLE AND YOURSELF IN THE SAME CATEGORY
EVERY SINGLE WORD MAY GIVE LOTS OF HIDDEN, HINTED SIGNALS. HUMAN WORDS ARE VERY COMPLEX.
Even he's not sure what he's talking about
??? ??? ???
DON'T THINK TOO DEEPLY.
MANY HIDDEN, HINTED SIGNALS

CHERIE... DON'T LET SUCH THINGS BOTHER YOU JUST STAY THE WAY YOU ARE...
ding dong
KAWADA-SAN YOU HAVE MAIL
KAWADA SAN?
IT'S OPEN
AH, YOU'RE HOME? YOU HAVE MAIL
PLEASE SIGN HERE
Flash
"SAVE ME."
YES
SHAKE

KYAAAA!
KYAAAA!
SNAP
SNAP
SNAP
REQUESTING URGENT BACK-UP
EMERGENCY SITUATION
YES! CALL THE POLICE!
BEEP BEEP
PROFESSOR!
I TOLD YOU TO SHUT UP, BRAT!
ARGH! SHUT UP!
CHERIE! DON'T MOVE FROM THAT SPOT!
KYAA!
AKARI!
IF YOU GET INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT..

AH!
THIS IS BAD! THIS IS BAD!
SFX WUUUU
CRISIS
TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION
STOP! LET MY BABY GO!
SFX WHIRL
WAAH!
KYAAA!

AH..
WAAAH!
PLEASE, REFRAIN FROM VIOLENCE
THANK YOU VERY MUCH! HOW CAN I EVERY REPAY YOU ?
WE'RE THE LOCAL PRESS!
GIVE US AN INTER-VIEW!
WE HAE WORK TO DO, SO EXCUSE US
DON'T GIVE US THAT!
CHERIE, YOU ANS-WER US!


HEY, STAY AWAY!
WAIT! HEY! CHERIE!
YOU'RE A MA-CHINE, DO IT!
ANS-WER US!
WE'RE HERE TO DO OUR JOBS, TOO!
THIS IS DANGE-ROUS!
DON'T PUSH!
YAMADA-SAN!

KYAAA!
ガシャ

drop
AHH!
OUT OF THE WAY!
IS THE CAMERA SAFE?
MIYA-WAKI-SAN'S LETTER!
BUT IF I LET GO NOW,
HERE, HE'S FINE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT, CHERIE.
YAMADA-SAN WILL...

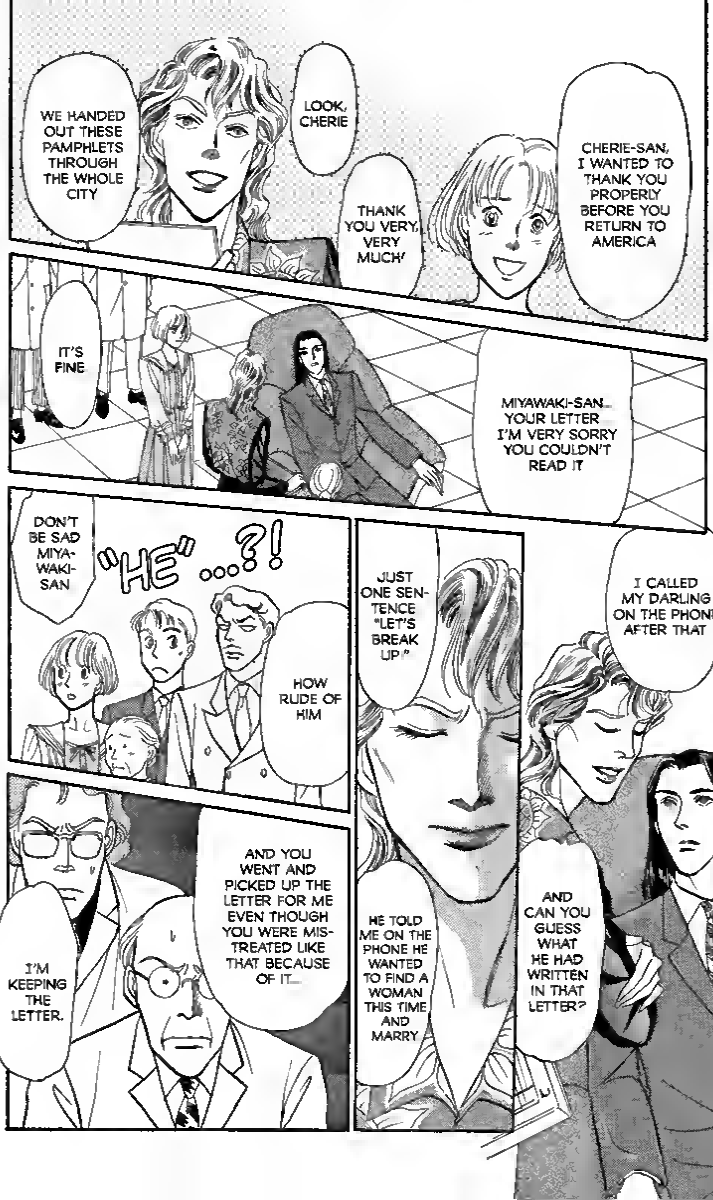
rustle
rustle
THE LETTER!
IS ANYONE HURT?
SORRY.. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
PLEASE, TAKE CARE OF YA-MADA-SAN!
THE WATER WILL WASH THE INK AWAY...
MY MISSION ..
Crunch
THE LETTER!
MY MISSION ..
drip
Splash

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE...?!
I'M FROM THE POSTAL DELIVERY SERVICE... MY NAME IS CHERIE IS THIS YOUR GARDEN?
GET OUT OF MY POND! IDIOT! YOU'RE CRUSHING MY FLOWER BEDS! YOU'RE AN INTRUDER! I'LL SUE YOU!
DECIPHERMENT IMPOSSIBLE
MULTIPLE ACCIDENTS
HEY, DO YOU HEAR ME?!
GET OUT OF HERE!

HM... I UNDERSTAND. NO WONDER THE OWNER OF THAT GARDEN WAS ANGRY.
BUT WELL, IN GENERAL, IT WAS A SUCCESS. LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT.
COMPLETE SHUTDOWN...
MAYBE SUCH TROUBLES MAY OCCUR IN THE HUMAN WORLD AT ANY TIME
SO HE COULDN'T HANDLE BEING PRESSED FOR AN ANSWER?
THE RESULT WAS ONLY NATURAL.
POOR SOUL, CHERIE...

DON'T YOU PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THIS?
IT DOESN'T HAVE A SOUL
CHIEF, THIS IS A MACHINE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT. IT'S JUST AN ACCUMULATION OF METAL AND PLASTIC.
IT DOESN'T HAVE A CONSCIOUSNESS
YOU, WHO HAD TO SHOULDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ACCIDENT, SHOULD BE PITIED INSTEAD
HE DOESN'T HAVE A HEART SO HE CANNOT BE HURT.
HE WILL JUST CONTINUE TO ACT IN THE WAY HE HAS BEEN PROGRAMMED
THAT'S WHAT CHERIE IS
CHIEF, YOU HAVE VISITORS!
COMING, YAMADA-KUN

YES WE HEARD THEY'RE RETURNING THE POOR THING TO AMERICA. IS THIS TRUE?
COULDN'T WE TALK TO CHERIE INSTEAD?
YES IS IT?
AH NICE TO MEET YOU ALL
FRIENDS?
THESE ARE KAWADA-SAN FROM YESTERDAY'S INCIDENT AND CHERIE'S FRIENDS, MIYAWAKI-SAN
AND TAYAMA-SAN
COULDN'T YOU POSSIBLY DO SOMETHING? HE'S MY LIFE SAVER..
THAT'S HORRIBLE! I'LL NEVER VOTE FOR THOSE OLD FOXES IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGAIN!
CHIEF YAMADA-SAN, MIYAWAKI-SAN, KAWADA-SAN, TAYAMA-SAN
GOOD AFTER-NOON
AH..
I DON'T THINK THOSE DARN JAPANESE UNDERSTAND
I'LL DO IT, SO CALM DOWN!
HEY, YOU! TURN HIM BACK ON!
LET US AT LEAST SAY GOOD-BYE TO HIM!
ARE YOU ALL OUT OF YOUR MINDS?


CHERIE-SAN, I WANTED TO THANK YOU PROPERLY BEFORE YOU RETURN TO AMERICA
LOOK, CHERIE
THANK YOU VERY, VERY MUCH!
WE HANDED OUT THESE PAMPHLETS THROUGH THE WHOLE CITY
MIYAWAKI-SAN... YOUR LETTER I'M VERY SORRY YOU COULDN'T READ IT
IT'S FINE
I CALLED MY DARLING ON THE PHONE AFTER THAT
JUST ONE SENTENCE "LET'S BREAK UP."
"HE"...?!
DON'T BE SAD MIYAWAKI-SAN
HOW RUDE OF HIM
AND CAN YOU GUESS WHAT HE HAD WRITTEN IN THAT LETTER?
HE TOLD ME ON THE PHONE HE WANTED TO FIND A WOMAN THIS TIME AND MARRY
AND YOU WENT AND PICKED UP THE LETTER FOR ME EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE MISTREATED LIKE THAT BECAUSE OF IT...
I'M KEEPING THE LETTER.

SON-IN-LAW
HE WILL COME BACK TO ME!
I'M VERY GLAD FOR YOU.
CHERIE MY STUPID SON SAID HE WANTS TO COME AND LIVE WITH ME
GOOD-BYE, CHERIE!
DON'T STEAL A MARCH ON ME!
YES?
YAMA-DA SAN.
IT WAS IN THE LETTER YOU BROUGHT ME LAST TIME
I'M SORRY I FAILED WITH MY MISSION..
CHERIE, THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
EVEN SO, EVERYONE HERE LIKED YOU
YOU WERE GREAT AT KARAOKE, TOO

PRO-
FESSOR
IGNORANCE AND WISDOM AND EMOTIONS ALL MIX TOGETHER IN THE LONG RUN
THERE IS NO DEEPER AND MORE COMPLEX MYSTERY THAN THE HUMAN HEART
I WILL BRING IT BACK WITH ME TO THE LABORATORY IN AMERICA
THIS KISS MARK IS PROOF OF THAT
PRO-
FESSOR
EH?
AREN'T YOU GOING TO BE LATE FOR YOUR PLANE?
THAT'S RIGHT
PROFESSOR, LET'S RUN!
AH, IT CAN'T BE HELPED! CHERIE, PLEASE!

FOR WHAT PURPOSE WERE YOU CREATED?
CHERIE...

TO WORK?
TO SERVE?
TO FIGHT?
ALL THE NUMEROUS HIDDEN SIGNALS HUMANITY SENDS TO YOU...
CHERIE,
WE ALL LOVE YOU
Cherie
LOVE
...WILL DECIDE YOUR FUTURE FROM NOW ON

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AERANDRIA

THE RAPID SOULS BEHIND YOUR FAVORITE RELEASES!

Mermaid Syndrome

Chapter 04

Lacaille :SCANNER
Mari :TRANSLATOR
Lacaille :PROOFREADER
Macbeth :EDITORS
Lacaille :QUALITY CHECK

I wouldn't mind having [illegible] pies as long as they did all the house work. XD

- Lacaille

http://[illegible] irc // irchighway net/#aerandria

I FELL IN LOVE...
...WITH A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.
The Harpies AND THE Princess

I WANT TO WIN HER FAVOR
I HAVE THE MOST FASHIONABLE CLOTHES, ITALIAN SHOES,
AND A CARRIAGE OF COURSE - MADE ABROAD
ALLEN GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER
THE HAIRDO IS PERFECT. BUT DOESN'T IT GIVE AWAY THAT I'VE BEEN GETTING READY THE WHOLE NIGHT?
DIONNE AH, MORE BEAUTIFUL AND GENTLE THAN ANY OTHER WOMAN IN THE WORLD
YOU ARE MY REFINED, ARISTOCRATIC PRINCESS.
ALL OF THIS IS SO I CAN PROPOSE TO HER TODAY.
DIONNE
I HAVE ALWAYS ADORED YOU
I BEG YOU. PLEASE ACCEPT MY LOVE AND ALLOW ME TO STAY BY YOUR SIDE
AS CLOSE AS YOUR ORNAMENTS AND COMBS

SHE IS PERFECT, MY IDEAL...
AH, MY! WHAT GREAT EARRINGS!
AH BUT YOUR RING IS STANDING OUT SO MUCH, TOO!
AH, WHAT A MODEST, GENTLE WOMAN
REALLY?
I.. I DON'T MIND
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER DO DESPICABLE THINGS LIKE...
SHE'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM OTHER WOMEN
CRY TO GET ATTENTION AND BULLY OR INSULT OTHERS.
PERFECTLY CONVE-NIENT!
PLEASE COME IF IT'S CONVE-NIENT FOR YOU.
I'LL HOLD A BALL IN MY ESTATE SOON
I'LL COME!
OPEN
...THE PERFECT MAN!
THREE CHEERS FOR ME!
I'LL GET MORE NEW CLOTHES AND HAIR EXTEN-SIONS!
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME TO VISIT HER HOUSE.
NOW, I HAVE TO SHOW HER THAT I AM...

WEL-COME!
IT'S A MAN! A REAL MAN!
OH, MY! WHAT A LUDI-CROUS OUTFIT!
ARE YOU VISITING THE PRIN-CESS? ARE YOU ALLEN?
DECKED UP LIKE A BIRD-OF-PARADISE TRYING TO SELL HIM-SELF TO THE FE-MALE!
FLAP, FLAP
WE ARE HARPIES!
ARE YOU THE MAN WHO COURTS OUR PRIN-CESS?
THEN LET US TAKE YOU TO HER!
HURRY NOW, THIS WAY!

THE SERVANTS AGAIN...? I APOLOGIZE
WAH!
THUD
DIONNE
AH, ALLEN.
AH.. MY ANGEL.. MY HOLY MAIDEN
FLAP
YOU LACK MANNERS SO BADLY
ESPECIALLY COMPARED TO DIONNE
KYUUUUU
AH HE'S SO SHY HE RAN AWAY!
DID YOU GROPE HIM? DID YOU STRIP HIM?
SEXY LUMP HOW ABOUT SOME TEA?
AH, WE'RE SO BUSY!

WE'RE SO DISGUSTING!
WE'VE SQUEAKY SCREECHING VOICES AND STINK.
WE BLABBER NOISES AND LIE TO ATTRACT MEN
WE'RE MADE OF EVERYTHING UGLY A WOMAN CAN HAVE
OF COURSE! WE'RE HARPIES*!
*HARPY MYTHICAL CREATURES FROM ANCIENT GREEK MYTHOLOGY CARNIVOROUS BIRDS WITH THE FACES OF WOMEN
I'M SLANDER
I'M LEWDNESS.
I'M GIBBERISH
MY NAME IS VANITY
I'M JEALOUSY
SHYNESS JUST RAN AWAY
sigh
ALL THE THINGS SHE ISN'T...
WHAN AN IRONIC WORLD IN WHICH THE SERVANTS OF SUCH BEAUTY AND VIRTUE
WOULD BE SUCH AN UGLY BUNCH...
AH... DIE ALL OF YOU
THERE'S A PARTY TODAY!
WE'RE SO BUSY SO BUSY!
YOU LOOK SO LOVELY TODAY DEAR
I'M HONORED TO ACCEPT YOUR INVITATION
DIONNE YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE ENJOYING YOURSELF
THAT'S BECAUSE
AH MADAM! WHAT A TOWERING SPLENDID HAIRDO YOU HAVE!
Hohoho!
AND I SEE YOU HAVE SUCH A FASHIONABLE HAT ALL OVER YOU...

I'M THE PARTY'S HOST AND YET I'M IN THE PLAINEST DRESS
I SHOULD HAVE HAD A HIGHER HAIRDO... AND PUT ON MORE GAUDY JEWELRY..
Here!
PRINCESS JEWELRY AND A WIG! PUT THEM ON AND YOU'LL STAND OUT!
VANITY THE HARPY?
MASTER ALLEN, HELP HER!
SHE DOESN'T NEED SUCH GAUDY THINGS!
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL! YOU LOOK BETTER WITH LESS DECORATION ON YOU...
CLANK
MY PART TO PLAY IS OVER...
FLAP
FAREWELL, PRINCESS! MASTER ALLEN!
YOU'LL NEVER SEE VANITY AGAIN!
ALLEN I'M SO HAPPY..

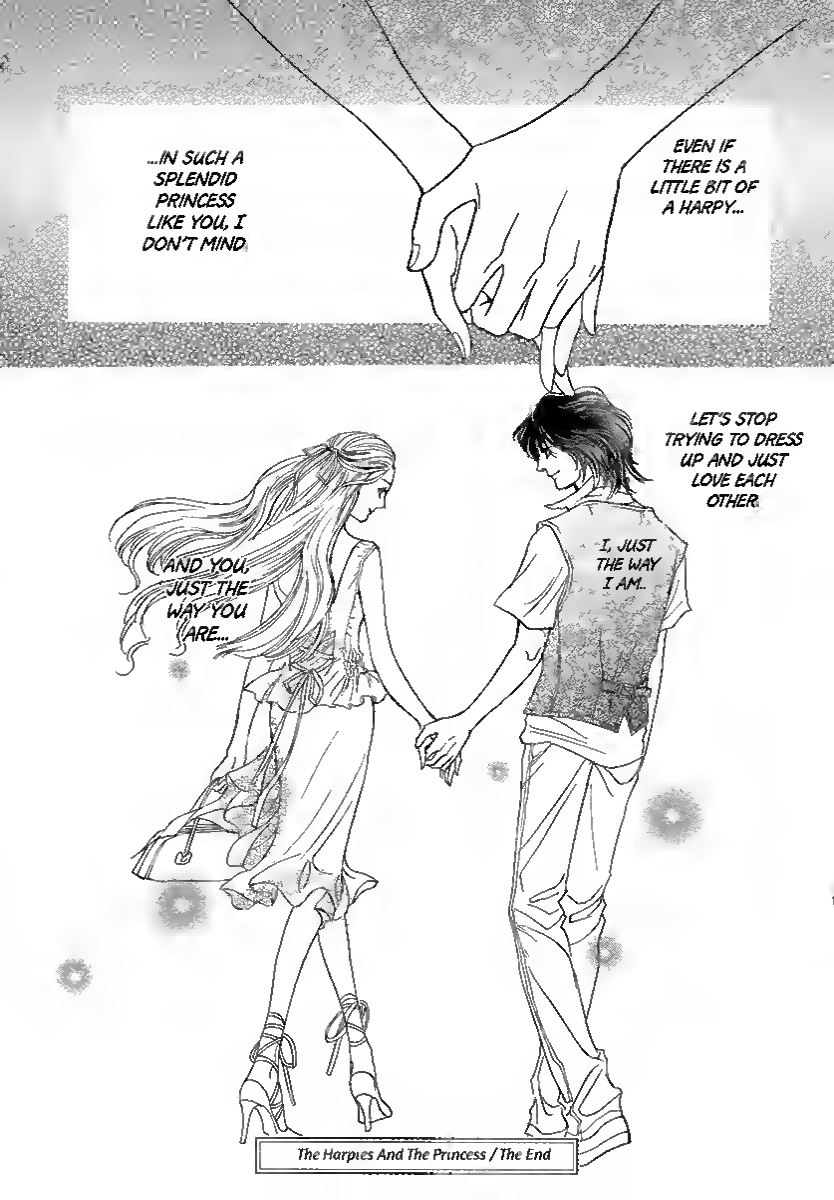
DIONNE ... KISS ME...
ALLEN ...
WE DON'T NEED SUCH THINGS!
Throw
Throw
Throw
I CAN'T KISS YOU LIKE THIS!
Sigh
WHAT A HUGE SKIRT YOU HAVE
A FOUR METER PANIER* DRESS!
Hahaha!
I ALWAYS FELT THESE HEAVY CLOTHES SUFFOCATING ME..
LOOK AT THOSE TWO
IT'S LIKE TWO MEATBALLS WALKING
AFTER THAT, THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US CONTINUED TO SHRINK
WITHOUT REALIZING IT, WE STOPPED DECORATING OURSELVES
flap flap
LEWDNESS IS FLYING AWAY
AND THERE IS SO MUCH CLEANING UP LEFT!
Ah
SO EVEN YOU CAN SAY SUCH THINGS!
Hahaha!

I CAN'T DO ANY-THING ALONE!
SO BUSY SO BUSY!
AS WE PROCEEDED TO GET CLOSER...
SOON, THE HARPIES GIBBERISH AND SLANDER ALSO WENT AWAY...
FOR SOME REASON, THE NUMBER OF HER SERVANTS STARTED TO DWINDLE...
TAKE
WHA?!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
YOU MUST BE VERY LONELY
NOW THAT THOSE NOISY VANITY GIBBERISH LEWDNESS AND SLANDER ARE GONE,
ARE YOU THE ONLY ONE LEFT HARPY JEALOUSY?
ALLEN, YOU IDIOT!
DO YOU LOVE THE OTHER HARPIES MORE THAN ME?!
AM I NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU ALONE?!

I'M SORRY, I DIDN'T WORD THIS RIGHT
I'M GLAD TO KNOW YOU LIKE ME SO MUCH...
PLEASE JEA-LOUSY STOP CRY-ING
AH, IS THAT YOU ALLEN?
ALLEN!
FANCY MEETING YOU IN SUCH A PLACE!
BEVER-LY!
YOU'VE GROWN SO PRETTY! I DIDN'T RECOG-NIZE YOU!
I... I KNOW EVERY-THING
YOU DON'T HAVE TO PRE-TEND
WHAT IS WRONG, DIONNE? YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN A WORD TO ME TODAY
DIONNE WAIT!
...MY FRIEND, BEVERLY...
ALLEN, AND...

YOU LIKE THAT YOUNGER GIRL MORE THAN ME!
YOU'VE EXCHANGED ME FOR BEVERLY!
WHAT..?
THAT'S NOT TRUE, DIONNE
YOUR NIECE?
WELL.. SHE IS MY ELDER BRO-THER'S DAUGH-TER.
YOU HAVE ACCEPTED JEALOUSY.
SO I HAVE NO MORE BUSI-NESS HERE.
HARPY!
AH!
I..
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

HARPY!
NO NEED TO GRIEVE FOR US.
WE ARE ALL INSIDE THE WOMAN YOU LOVE SO DEARLY
I'M SORRY, I DOUBTED YOU, BUT
IT'S BECAUSE I LOVE YOU..
DO YOU HATE ME NOW?
CAN YOU LOVE SUCH A JEALOUS WOMAN LIKE ME?
YES.
I'M EVEN A LITTLE HAPPY
I COULDN'T IMAGINE YOU WOULD CRY FOR ME


...IN SUCH A SPLENDID PRINCESS LIKE YOU, I DON'T MIND
EVEN IF THERE IS A LITTLE BIT OF A HARPY...
LET'S STOP TRYING TO DRESS UP AND JUST LOVE EACH OTHER
I, JUST THE WAY I AM...
AND YOU, JUST THE WAY YOU ARE...

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AERANDRIA
THE RAPID SOULS BEHIND YOUR FAVORITE RELEASES!

Mermaid Syndrome
Extra Chapter

Lacaille :SCANNER
Mari :TRANSLATOR
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Macbeth :EDITORS
Lacaille :QUALITY CHECK

...er what Cherie's average response time is...

- Lacaille

...irc // irchighway.net/#aerandria

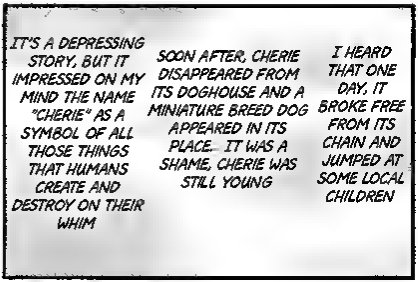
CHERIE AFTER THAT
EARLY EVENING AT A CERTAIN POST OFFICE SOMEWHERE IN JAPAN...
CHIEF!
SFX: STAMPEDE
だだだだ...
CHIEF!
CHIEF YAMADA, TERRIBLE NEWS!
TODAY, JUST BEFORE THE START OF THE CONSECUTIVE HOLIDAYS, THERE'S A GIGANTIC LINE BEFORE OUR OFFICE!
WHAT IS IT?
IN SUCH MOMENTS
OUR ONLY CHOICE IS TO CALL HIM

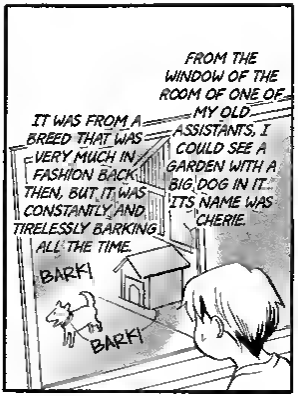
ゴゴゴゴ
CLANK
CLANK
SEX RUMBLE
THE CLIENTS..
. ARE WAITING FOR ME.
WHAT ARE YOU, STILL HAVING AFTER-NOON TEA?!
HURRY UP! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR TEN MINUTES!
TO THE RESCUE!
?

THAT WILL BE 2580 YEN, PLEASE!
MADAM!
HURRY! CALCULATE THE COST FOR MY NON-STANDARD-SIZED PACKAGES!
CHERIE! THE ANDROID CHERIE IS HERE!
500,000 YEN MUST REACH THE SON WITHIN THE NEXT THREE HOURS!
HOME-PACKED PARCEL FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE, FIVE SETS OF ECHIZEN SOBA, THREE SETS OF FRIED MACKEREL ON DRY ICE, PRIORITY DELIVERY
READY TO GO!
SIX SETS OF 80 YEN STAMPS, NINE SETS OF 20 YEN STAMPS, TWENTY FIVE 200-YEN REVENUE STAMPS
WITH PLEASURE!
TEN POSTAL ORDERS, CASHED!
UNDERSTOOD!
SFX WOOOW!
おーっ
HE TRULY BRINGS PEACE TO THE HEARTS OF HUMANITY
IN ANSWER TO THE POPULAR DEMAND, CHERIE SOMETIMES OVERCOMES VAST FORESTS, DEEP SEAS AND OFTEN EVEN SPACE TO VISIT JAPAN AND HELPS PEOPLE, EXPERTLY HANDLING THE CHAOS IN OUR OFFICES.
MADAM, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT SENDING YOUR MONEY TO A TELE-PHONE SWINDLER?
YOU THINK SO?!
CHERIE AFTER THAT | THE END

AFTERWORD

THANK YOU FOR TAKING INTO YOUR HANDS THIS SHORT VOLUME IF "MERMAID SYNDROME."
I'M KAMATA KIMIKO, QUIETLY DRAWING MANGA IN A CERTAIN NOOK IN JAPAN.
AS EVERY OTHER MANGA ARTIST,
EEECK! WAAAH, THIS STYLE IS ANCIENT!
I WAS VERY NERVOUS ABOUT GOING THROUGH MY OLD WORKS.
SOME OF THE STORIES IN THIS VOLUME ARE AWFULLY OLD
BUT THERE ARE SOME NEW ONES, TOO
HOWEVER,
THE DRAWINGS ARE OLD BUT YOUR SKILL IS UNEXPECTEDLY GOOD.
Wow! And she's drawn all of her backgrounds on her own!
WHAT AN EXEMPLARY DRAFT
I DIDN'T DO MUCH IN THE WAY OF BACKGROUNDS BEFORE, SO I SOMETIMES SKIPPED THE "REFERENCE MATERIALS GATHERING" STAGE.
BUT I USED THE POSTAL OFFICE IN THE TOWN OF KOMATSU, ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE, AS REFERENCE FOR "ANDROID CHERIE." MY SINCEREST THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED ME THEN.
I HAVE SOME MEMORIES TO SHARE, CONNECTED TO THE NAME OF THAT ANDROID.

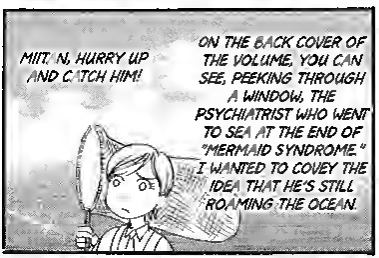

IT'S A DEPRESSING STORY, BUT IT IMPRESSED ON MY MIND THE NAME "CHERIE" AS A SYMBOL OF ALL THOSE THINGS THAT HUMANS CREATE AND DESTROY ON THEIR WHIM
SOON AFTER, CHERIE DISAPPEARED FROM ITS DOGHOUSE AND A MINIATURE BREED DOG APPEARED IN ITS PLACE... IT WAS A SHAME, CHERIE WAS STILL YOUNG
I HEARD THAT ONE DAY, IT BROKE FREE FROM ITS CHAIN AND JUMPED AT SOME LOCAL CHILDREN


FROM THE WINDOW OF THE ROOM OF ONE OF MY OLD ASSISTANTS, I COULD SEE A GARDEN WITH A BIG DOG IN IT. ITS NAME WAS CHERIE.
IT WAS FROM A BREED THAT WAS VERY MUCH IN FASHION BACK THEN, BUT IT WAS CONSTANTLY AND TIRELESSLY BARKING ALL THE TIME.
BARK!
BARK!

THE MECHANICAL FISH ON THE COVER IS A SYMBOL OF THAT.
AND STRENGTH NOT TO LOSE TO HUMANS.
THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO GIVE CHERIE FLEXIBILITY

AH, I'M SORRY! I GUESS THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO ANYONE BUT ME.
YOUTH CERTAINLY HAS ITS MERITS! THE KELP LEAVES ON THE COVER SYMBOLIZE THAT
IT ALSO MADE ME THINK THAT TODAY, I WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DRAW SUCH A STORY.
WHEN I REREAD IT, I FOUND THE TRACES OF THE OLD PAIN AND SUFFERING EVERYWHERE. IT MADE ME LAUGH
I REMEMBER SUFFERING GREATLY WITH THE DRAFTING OF "NEXT GREEN."

THE NOISY HARPY GRANNIES ARE SOME OF MY FAVORITE CHARACTERS.


MIITAN, HURRY UP AND CATCH HIM!
ON THE BACK COVER OF THE VOLUME, YOU CAN SEE, PEEKING THROUGH A WINDOW, THE PSYCHIATRIST WHO WENT TO SEA AT THE END OF "MERMAID SYNDROME." I WANTED TO COVEY THE IDEA THAT HE'S STILL ROAMING THE OCEAN.